

1894.

QUEENSLAND.

REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL ON THE RETURNS OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK FOR THE YEAR 1893.

Presented to both Houses of Parliament by Command.

TO THE HONOURABLE HORACE TOZER, ESQUIRE, COLONIAL SECRETARY.

SIR,—I do myself the honour to lay before you my Report on the pastoral and agricultural industries of the colony for 1893, the results shown by which are, I regret to say, not quite so satisfactory as of late years.

The climatic conditions which obtained during 1893 have, with some exceptions, operated to the disadvantage both of the grazier and the farmer.

The drought which commenced in 1891 was severely felt during the succeeding years throughout the Western portions of the colony, and resulted in great losses amongst the flocks of the pastoralist, whilst in some of the coast districts the floods in the early portion of 1893 proved most disastrous to agricultural pursuits.

COLLECTION OF STATISTICS.

The collection of the live stock and agricultural statistics had up to 1892 always devolved on the police; but under an Act passed last session, entitled "*The Stock Returns Act of 1893*," the constabulary were relieved of the first portion of this duty, and it was provided therein that all owners of stock should annually, on the 1st January, or within one month thereafter, furnish returns of stock owned by them to the clerk of petty sessions of the district on which the stock were kept or depastured.

It was hardly to be expected that such a radical change in the mode of collecting this information would be at first attended with complete success. Every effort was made by this office to call public attention to the duties created by the Act. Advertisements were inserted in the public Press, and circulars were sent to the police and others, requesting that every publicity might be given to the requirements of the Act; notwithstanding this, however, a considerable number of stock-owners failed to make the required returns within anything like a reasonable time, consequently prosecutions had to be instituted to compel non-compliant stock-owners to furnish such returns. At the time of writing this Report (July) returns of stock are still being received by me daily, which should have been rendered to the clerk of petty sessions in January last, and should have reached me in March at latest. The contents of a few of these returns, particulars of which could not be obtained from the Stock Department, will necessarily be omitted from the tables of live stock attached to this Report, which I was obliged to close before the end of June. To supply the omissions thus caused it is my intention to publish a small supplementary table, which will contain a return of the number of stock of all descriptions contained in the late returns which reach me up to the time of going to press with this Report. (*Vide* Appendix Table No. 12.)

Some owners seem to have been under the impression that by paying the assessments due under the various Acts to the Stock Department the requirements of the Stock Returns Act had been complied with, and some clerks of petty sessions do not appear to have made any great efforts to remove the misapprehension. In many cases of importance where no returns were furnished to me under the Stock Returns Act, I have been able, through the courtesy of the Chief Inspector of Stock, to obtain the number of the stock on which assessment has been paid under "*The Meat and Dairy Produce Encouragement Act of 1893*," and other Acts, and they have been incorporated with the returns received by me, and are included in my tables.

The experience gained during the past year will in future, no doubt, tend to lessen the difficulties which I had to contend with, but I consider that the returns would be more punctually and accurately obtained if the police were allowed to collect them as before; the onus of making such returns imposed on owners by the Stock Returns Act being, however, still retained, so that any oversight in collection by the police might not be pleaded as an excuse for not having furnished the required returns.

INCREASE OR DECREASE IN DIFFERENT KINDS OF STOCK.

A comparison of the numbers of the various kinds of live stock in the colony at the end of 1892 and 1893 can be made from the following table:—

A.

Year.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
1892	422,769	6,591,416	21,708,310	116,930
1893	429,734	6,693,200	18,697,015	68,086
Numerical Increase in 1893	6,965	101,784	...	...
Centesimal Increase in 1893	1·65	1·54	...	...
Numerical Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	...	3,011,295	48,844
Centesimal Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	...	13·87	41·77

From this it is seen that whilst the horses and cattle increased 7,000 and 100,000 each, respectively there was a decrease of sheep amounting to just over 3,000,000, and of pigs nearly 50,000.

The centesimal ratios of increase for seven years are given in the following statement:—

B.										
Year.				Horses.		Cattle.		Sheep.		Pigs.
1887	...	...	...	9·75	...	9·88	...	33·39	...	19·08
1888	...	...	...	6·04	...	4·05	...	4·01	...	†6·34
1889	...	...	...	8·61	...	4·67	...	7·64	...	17·01
1890	...	...	...	3·82	...	14·08	...	24·44	...	19·95
1891	...	...	...	9·20	...	11·42	...	12·67	...	26·67
1892	...	...	...	5·86	...	6·44	...	6·99	...	†4·68
1893	...	...	...	1·65	...	1·54	...	†13·87	...	†41·77

† Decrease.

It is probable that the ownership of live stock, which involved increased taxation under "*The Meat and Dairy Produce Encouragement Act of 1893*," has made proprietors more careful in compiling returns of stock than hitherto, which, no doubt, has occasioned a shrinkage in the numbers given in the schedules, the figures for previous years having been, perhaps through carelessness or otherwise, rather over than under stated.

With regard to horses, the present supply is more than sufficient for the requirements of the colony; therefore, unless a considerable market outside of Queensland should be found, any extended increase in the number of this description of stock is neither to be looked for nor desired. A small outlet has been lately opened up with India, and it is probable that the trade is capable of expansion. I am informed that some 600 or 700 horses were shipped from the vicinity of Bowen during 1893, and about 1,200 in April and May of this year. I further understand that the cost of freight, food, and charges is about £14 per head, and the price obtainable on landing in India about £25, so that the margin of profit—taking into consideration the charges and possible loss of numbers on the voyage—does not give anything like a substantial return for really first-class animals—the only class that are at all likely to find purchasers in that country. The shipping expenses appear heavy; but if a regular trade could be opened, it is possible that in time they may be reduced, which would naturally lead to the prospect of a more adequate return to the breeder.

From the small percentage of increase in cattle, and the considerable percentage of loss in sheep, it will be at once perceived that the returns for 1893 show most unsatisfactorily when compared with those of previous years. Two causes, I believe, have conjointly operated to bring this about—namely, first, the losses by drought; and, secondly, a desire rather to understate the number owned by each proprietor than to exaggerate them. To what extent the shrinkage is due to either of these causes I am unable to determine; but from such information as I am able to gather, I am led to doubt the severity of the loss caused by the drought having been so great as many of the returns would seem to imply. If I am incorrect in this surmise, then the losses on some of the large Western stations were really formidable, as a comparison of the returns for 1892 and those for 1893 in some cases show decreases amounting to 50 per cent. on the figures of the former year.

From Statement A it is seen that whilst for the whole of the colony horses and cattle show a slight increase, there were fewer sheep and pigs in the country at the end of 1893 than at the end of 1892.

In view of the low prices ruling for cattle and the difficulties of finding a profitable market for the surplus, the falling off in the increase for the present is not a matter of such moment; but with respect to sheep it is different, because taking into consideration the value of that animal for wool production, the loss in this kind of live stock, if the returns can be strictly relied upon, is one of grave import. The impressions produced from an examination of the papers contained in the return of sheep in the colony become somewhat modified, if attention is turned to the altered conditions under which that description of stock was disposed of in 1893, compared with previous years. The increase in sheep for the previous two years had been at the rate of about 10 per cent. per annum, but in 1893 there was a decrease of 13 per cent., making an apparent deficit in the latter year, as compared with the progress of 1891 and 1892, of 23 per cent. Assuming the consumption of mutton in the colony to have been relatively equal for each of the three years, the number of sheep otherwise disposed of differed materially last year. In 1891-2, the yearly average number preserved, frozen, boiled down and disposed of by excess of export over import, was 495,712, or just over 2 per cent. on the mean number of sheep in the colony, whilst last year 2,080,065 sheep, or rather more than 11 per cent., were relegated to foreign markets by means of one or the other of the above-mentioned channels, no less than 793,290 having been exported over the border in excess of those imported in the same way. It must also be considered that in years of drought such as 1893, proprietors are forced to dispose in some manner of their sheep, the usual method being to boil down to prevent total loss from want of feed and water, and that at such a time lambs are destroyed wholesale to preserve the ewes.

Full particulars respecting the number of cattle, sheep, and hogs slaughtered for freezing, &c., will be found at Table V. in the Appendix. From this table, which furnishes information extending over ten years, the progress made in this branch of the pastoral industry becomes at once apparent. In 1886, rather more than one million pounds weight of meat were preserved or frozen, whilst in 1892 and 1893, 28,273,600 lb. and 40,466,328 lb., respectively, were thus dealt with, whilst 11,183 tons of tallow were produced in the latter year compared with only 97 tons in 1886.

In my Report for 1892, in commenting upon sheep grazing and the number and size of individual holdings, I stated that "a tendency of late years to reduce the average number of sheep to each holding" was "calculated to render loss by droughts less severely felt." The table which furnishes information under this head for 1893 shows that the tendency to reduce the average number of sheep to each holding still continues.

Petty Sessions Districts.	50 and Under.		51 to 1,000.		1,001 to 5,000.		5,001 to 20,000.		20,001 and Upwards.		Total Number of Sheep.	
	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Owners.	Sheep.	Total Owners.	Total Sheep.
Adavale	1	40	...	...	...	...	2	31,459	6	595,968	9	627,467
Allora	2	5	25	13,563	8	13,035	5	53,071	2	56,600	42	136,274
Aramac	5	117	1	500	5	12,401	10	82,355	2	123,336	23	218,709
Augathella	6	81	3	1,163	...	...	1	14,000	4	419,776	14	435,020
Ayr ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Banana	6	35	1	480	3	11,397	2	14,956	...	...	12	26,868
Barcaldine	14	113	4	687	10	34,004	5	94,436	7	609,328	40	738,568
Beaudesert	6	143	3	220	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	363
Blackall	3	164	6	2,156	7	24,867	8	89,909	7	798,633	31	915,729
Boulia ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	4,300	1	20,000	1	23,938	3	48,238
Bowen	3	80	1	500	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	580
Brisbane	9	184	4	650	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	834
Bundaberg	4	67	6	788	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	855
Burke ... ..	...	...	2	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	800
Caboolture	3	108	1	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	166
Cairns ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camooowal ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cape River	5	48	1	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	248
Cardwell ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charleville	12	273	7	1,234	5	12,967	6	44,446	7	468,787	37	527,707
Charters Towers	4	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	60
Clermont	15	130	6	1,850	1	1,300	3	35,158	9	711,976	34	750,414
Cleveland	3	30	1	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	130
Cloncurry	1	3	...	...	...	...	1	19,500	5	359,899	7	379,402
Condamine ... ..	...	...	1	170	...	...	...	...	2	48,060	3	48,230
Cook ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Crow's Nest ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	30,000	1	30,000
Croydon ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cunnamulla	6	97	1	200	13	49,410	30	293,895	8	739,549	58	1,083,151
Dalby	12	190	32	14,918	43	103,320	10	83,936	6	266,936	103	469,300
Diamantina	1	32	1	70	1	4,100	2	22,600	...	...	5	26,802
Douglas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dugandan	8	186	2	369	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	555
Eidsvold	1	36	2	756	...	...	2	12,840	...	...	5	13,632
Emerald	5	68	3	1,535	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1,603
Esk	4	97	9	1,160	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	1,257
Etheridge ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eulo	1	25	2	691	...	...	7	92,800	1	35,800	11	129,316
Gatton	11	152	1	62	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	214
Gayndah	3	53	2	480	2	2,521	...	...	...	...	7	3,054
Gin Gin ... ..	...	...	2	360	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	360
Gladstone ... ..	...	...	3	268	1	1,450	...	...	...	...	4	1,718
Goodna	2	74	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	74
Goondiwindi... ..	2	44	11	5,768	10	24,822	4	45,764	4	248,821	31	325,219
Gympie	3	27	1	700	1	2,000	...	...	...	...	5	2,727
Harrisville	5	183	2	471	...	...	...	...	1	21,030	8	21,684
Herberton	1	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	10
Highfields	4	28	3	680	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	708
Hughenden	3	93	...	...	4	19,833	4	25,618	14	1,064,438	25	1,109,982
Hungerford	1	50	2	342	...	...	2	32,665	3	255,355	8	288,412
Ingham	1	1	1	82	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	83
Inglewood	1	18	9	2,860	2	6,950	1	16,300	2	53,000	15	79,128
Ipswich	9	127	2	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	287
Isisford ... ..	...	...	...	...	1	2,780	...	...	6	607,511	7	610,291
Killarney	1	40	2	220	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	260
Laidley	12	150	2	380	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	530
Logan	4	100	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	100
Longreach	3	22	6	3,323	8	27,082	12	107,678	11	1,265,553	40	1,403,658
Mackay	6	29	2	665	1	4,000	...	...	...	...	9	4,694
Marburg	4	83	3	304	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	387
Maroochy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Maryborough	13	118	2	160	1	1,282	...	...	...	...	16	1,560
Mitchell	10	180	16	6,148	4	9,950	3	15,203	2	100,181	35	131,662
Mourilyan ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muttaborra ... ..	...	...	...	...	2	8,000	10	125,316	16	1,550,142	28	1,683,458
Nanango	3	126	12	4,390	3	6,985	1	7,028	...	...	19	18,529
Nerang	4	87	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	87
Norman	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	33,623	2	33,626
Palmer ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ravenswood	2	29	1	57	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	86
Redcliffe	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5
Rockhampton	26	163	8	2,824	2	6,522	2	20,500	...	...	38	30,069
Roma	37	398	19	11,130	16	44,665	4	44,958	4	213,806	80	314,957
Rosewood	7	169	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	169
St. George	8	204	5	1,119	2	5,230	5	53,010	20	1,677,906	40	1,737,469
St. Lawrence	3	129	5	1,248	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1,377
Somerset	2	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	25
South Brisbane	9	139	4	311	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	450
Springhurst	11	145	7	817	1	3,993	3	33,423	5	340,358	27	378,736
Stanthorpe	3	81	11	5,407	4	6,900	4	64,512	1	23,000	23	99,900
Surat	1	1	7	4,076	7	18,940	8	68,923	5	259,009	28	350,949
Tambo	4	56	3	1,280	1	2,415	6	77,203	8	492,552	22	573,506
Taroom	8	146	3	1,173	4	11,212	1	14,000	...	...	16	26,531
Tenningering ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thargomindah	1	25	1	233	...	...	2	15,128	10	662,044	14	677,430
Thornborough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiaro	4	61	2	121	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	182
Toowoomba	21	272	73	31,965	28	60,034	8	79,269	11	640,972	141	812,512
Townsville	6	30	3	409	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	439
Warwick	9	237	42	18,536	13	26,353	5	68,116	3	110,593	72	223,835
Windorah	2	53	10	3,933	1	3,720	1	6,800	3	260,049	17	274,555
Winton	3	53	1	1,000	1	3,400	...	...	10	853,656	15	858,109
Woodford ... ..	...	...	1	148	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	148
Yeulba ... ..	...	...	4	856	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	856
	415	6,631	419	159,284	217	582,140	181	1,926,775	208	16,022,185	1,440	18,697,015

For instance, in 1892 more than 19,000,000, or 88 per cent., of the sheep were held on stations which depastured 20,000 and over. On stations which contained the above number only, 16,000,000 are now found. From the returns of 1893 it is gathered that flocks of over 20,000 included barely 86 per cent. of the total number of sheep, the 2 per cent. difference being acquired by the smaller holders of from 5,000 to 20,000 sheep.

The average number of sheep to each flock had been found to decline each year since this particular return of information had been compiled, nor did 1893 prove any exception, although the declension was less pronounced than in the preceding year.

Year.				No. of Owners.				No. of Sheep.				Average Size of Flock.
1890	...	...	...	849	...	...	...	18,007,234	...	...	...	21,210
1891	...	...	...	1,018	...	...	...	20,289,633	...	...	...	19,931
1892	...	...	...	1,496	...	...	...	21,708,310	...	...	...	14,511
1893	...	...	...	1,440	...	...	...	18,697,015	...	...	...	12,984

It is probable that the flocks of sheep likely to prove most remunerative to their owner, and least liable to many losses, are those which contain from 50 to 5,000 sheep. This class of grazier, however, has diminished in number—namely, from 702 in 1892, to 636 in the following years, although the average number allotted to each proprietor was 1,166 in the latter, and 1,032 in the former year.

A far greater number of people are to be found who own a small number of cattle. There were 20,602 returned as owning this description of live stock in 1893, or one out of every twenty-two persons in the colony. Were the cattle equally apportioned amongst the above-mentioned individuals, each would be proprietor of 325 head; the average size of herd so proportioned was 352 in the previous year. The manner of the present distribution will be seen from the following table:—

D.

—	Number of Owners.	1 to 100.	Number of Owners.	101 to 300.	Number of Owners.	301 and upwards.	Total Owners.	Total Cattle.
Adavale ...	22	571	2	546	10	45,055	34	46,172
Allora ...	260	6,158	9	1,338	6	5,560	275	13,056
Aramac ...	18	437	3	466	8	19,567	29	20,470
Augathella ...	21	571	2	300	12	47,102	35	47,973
Ayr ...	44	1,390	11	1,799	13	42,674	68	45,863
Banana ...	25	443	7	1,340	22	110,757	54	112,540
Barcaldine ...	71	2,381	4	634	12	77,630	87	80,645
Beaudesert ...	239	8,248	56	10,343	19	22,077	314	40,668
Blackall ...	30	962	13	2,391	3	2,140	46	5,493
Boulia ...	5	136	3	650	19	144,807	27	145,593
Bowen ...	116	3,937	24	4,824	39	221,807	179	230,568
Brisbane ...	1,143	11,651	3	428	1	381	1,147	12,460
Bundaberg ...	616	9,476	32	5,636	14	48,257	662	63,419
Burke ...	1	5	2	450	20	177,064	23	177,519
Caboolture ...	370	6,065	12	2,151	2	1,278	384	9,494
Cairns ...	73	2,146	11	2,217	7	3,026	91	7,389
Camooweal ...	3	60	2	417	8	37,778	13	38,255
Cape River ...	10	309	4	634	22	120,638	36	121,581
Cardwell ...	17	961	7	1,530	9	10,274	33	12,765
Charleville ...	156	3,942	8	1,461	22	108,793	186	114,196
Charters Towers ...	201	7,080	80	15,148	51	180,638	332	202,866
Clermont ...	147	4,776	35	6,906	48	227,066	230	238,748
Cleveland ...	116	1,747	...	...	...	...	116	1,747
Cloncurry ...	12	609	2	310	20	213,346	34	214,265
Condamine ...	38	1,250	9	1,770	11	16,234	58	19,254
Cook ...	64	1,726	9	1,735	18	36,125	91	39,586
Crow's Nest ...	98	2,979	9	1,569	4	11,957	111	16,505
Croydon ...	19	471	4	770	7	39,808	30	41,049
Cunnamulla ...	68	1,751	7	1,079	13	111,490	88	114,320
Dalby ...	300	7,190	20	3,631	12	36,127	332	46,948
Diamantina ...	...	...	...	...	19	84,126	19	84,126
Douglas ...	34	1,151	3	438	...	...	37	1,589
Dugandan ...	392	6,619	3	627	3	3,295	398	10,541
Eidsvold ...	84	1,818	8	1,255	8	56,123	100	59,196
Emerald ...	42	1,699	8	1,615	15	45,072	65	48,386
Esk ...	209	6,231	41	7,436	32	48,395	282	62,062
Etheridge ...	18	461	5	943	12	117,494	35	118,898
Eulo ...	8	227	1	120	8	64,847	17	65,194
Gatton ...	482	8,317	11	1,611	5	8,382	498	18,310
Gayndah ...	86	2,409	3	513	20	160,123	109	163,045
Gin Gin ...	75	2,406	13	2,333	12	41,849	100	46,588
Gladstone ...	158	4,998	28	5,921	38	124,395	224	135,314
Goodna ...	145	2,228	1	129	...	...	146	2,357
Goondiwindi ...	83	1,937	9	1,763	14	35,262	106	38,962
Gympie ...	592	8,268	17	3,713	18	35,003	627	46,984
Harrisville ...	346	10,140	14	2,406	3	1,100	363	13,646
Herberton ...	87	2,091	9	1,513	19	61,640	115	65,244
Highfields ...	379	6,403	6	1,236	2	980	387	8,619
Hughenden ...	113	3,486	6	1,097	26	233,230	145	237,813
Hungerford ...	6	159	2	332	1	880	9	1,371
Ingham ...	80	1,577	12	2,347	17	44,179	109	48,103
Inglewood ...	66	1,361	4	614	10	23,742	80	25,717
Ipswich ...	1,062	13,196	32	5,776	8	5,365	1,102	24,337
Isisford ...	13	389	2	260	4	6,653	19	7,302
Killarney ...	129	2,900	2	450	1	500	132	3,850
Laidley ...	479	8,538	6	1,001	2	3,387	487	12,926
Logan ...	450	7,933	11	1,834	2	1,026	463	10,793
Longreach ...	43	1,362	9	1,416	6	35,491	58	38,269
Mackay ...	638	16,128	67	12,690	64	206,635	769	235,453
Marburg ...	266	3,623	1	160	...	...	267	3,783
Maroochy ...	154	2,461	1	194	...	...	155	2,655

D—continued.

	Number of Owners.	1 to 100.	Number of Owners.	101 to 300.	Number of Owners.	301 and upwards.	Total Owners.	Total Cattle.
Maryborough ...	975	14,550	23	4,454	10	15,036	1,008	34,040
Mitchell ...	67	1,413	4	559	31	123,233	102	130,205
Mourilyan ...	15	205	2	482	...	...	17	687
Muttaborra ...	17	781	2	324	4	55,914	23	57,022
Nanango ...	108	3,720	21	3,774	20	72,368	149	79,862
Nerang ...	233	4,627	11	1,982	1	400	245	7,009
Norman ...	4	131	2	275	23	186,105	29	186,511
Palmer ...	6	174	1	106	7	27,441	14	27,821
Ravenswood ...	38	1,581	19	3,765	12	34,800	69	40,146
Redcliffe ...	320	7,383	12	1,886	...	...	332	9,269
Rockhampton ...	796	19,838	125	23,007	93	206,875	1,014	249,720
Roma ...	219	4,816	17	2,970	12	92,143	248	99,929
Rosewood ...	334	8,885	8	1,035	1	834	343	10,754
St. George ...	67	1,830	10	2,393	33	90,248	110	91,471
St. Lawrence ...	29	1,260	6	1,198	22	131,455	57	133,913
Somerset ...	2	72	1	289	2	1,759	5	2,120
South Brisbane ...	923	8,904	4	571	...	...	927	9,475
Springsure ...	87	2,714	13	2,616	39	244,646	139	249,976
Stanthorpe ...	173	4,779	14	2,543	9	15,854	196	23,176
Surat ...	27	832	3	620	8	35,147	38	36,599
Tambo ...	28	775	2	330	9	29,278	39	30,383
Taroom ...	48	1,252	8	1,357	32	156,823	88	159,432
Tenninger ...	78	2,508	11	1,490	4	17,168	93	21,166
Thargomindah ...	7	363	6	1,260	33	372,432	46	374,055
Thornborough ...	18	885	4	772	17	67,748	39	69,405
Tiaro ...	268	6,710	12	2,506	20	34,992	300	44,208
Toowoomba ...	1,177	18,299	16	2,589	15	30,478	1,208	51,366
Townsville ...	268	6,807	40	8,255	20	107,626	328	122,688
Warwick ...	482	13,416	34	5,305	13	19,605	529	38,326
Windorah ...	12	410	4	567	23	212,479	39	213,456
Winton ...	16	647	10	2,131	14	128,046	40	130,824
Woodford ...	95	2,985	15	2,522	7	11,808	117	17,315
Yuelba ...	95	1,247	3	464	5	13,320	103	15,031
	18,054	364,846	1,188	218,663	1,360	6,109,691	20,602	6,693,200

Thus to 18,054 owners there were allotted only $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. of the total number of cattle, the remaining $94\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. being appropriated by 2,548 persons, and of this latter 1,360 owners were the proprietors of 6,109,691 head, or rather more than 91 per cent. of all the cattle in the colony, which gives an average herd of 4,492 to each grazier.

In Thargomindah, the district in which the greatest number of horned cattle were depastured, 46 proprietors owned 374,055 head, or an average of 8,131 each, which is the largest proportion to each owner in any district; Burke, Norman, Cloncurry, and Windorah, the only districts which approximate in this respect, having average herds of 7,718, 6,431, 6,302, and 5,473 each, respectively.

For several years past I have collected and tabulated information respecting the ages of horned cattle, and hitherto with fair success. The information on this point for 1890-91-92, when the returns were collected by the police, covered from 80 to 90 per cent. of the total collection, which was sufficiently complete to permit a fair estimate to be made of the number of cattle of each age then in the colony. The schedule to "*The Stock Returns Act of 1893*" did not, unfortunately, provide for the collection of these particulars. I therefore decided to make some provision for the purpose of ascertaining the information. This I did by getting a notice printed at the foot of each form, requesting graziers and others to be good enough to supply it, and providing a schedule at the back of each form in which the particulars could be inserted. I much regret to find that my invitation to furnish this information, which I have been informed was most valuable to parties interested in live stock, has been but indifferently responded to, details having only been supplied to the extent of 48 per cent. of the entire collection. I therefore fear that unless my efforts in this direction meet with better recognition during the next collection, I shall be compelled to withdraw the table from future issues of my Report on live stock. At Table VI. in the Appendix will be found details of the age of stock in 1893, tabulated as far as the meagre nature of the information furnished by stock-owners will permit.

EXPORT OF LIVE STOCK.

The opportunities afforded for the disposal of surplus stock have been greatly extended by the expansion of the meat trade with Europe; and the export of stock alive, and not in the carcass, is a matter of too great importance to be lightly overlooked. With respect to cattle this colony is the premier producer in point of numbers of all Australasia, and consequently has always exported a large number of beasts to supply beef for the southern markets. The fiscal policy of Victoria has, however, recently almost closed the markets of that colony to Queensland stock, and in New South Wales a similar result, as far as we are concerned, has been in part brought about by the necessity forced upon that colony of purchasing less fat cattle in order that she may consume her rapidly-increasing surplus of sheep. The trade in live stock for the past ten years is recorded in Statement E subjoined, from which it will be seen that, notwithstanding the circumstances above referred to, this colony last year exported 176,660 cattle in excess of the number imported.

Sheep claim a primary value as wool producers, the number in Queensland being so much within the capabilities of the colony. The southern colonies, moreover, are not often in need of this kind of stock. The imports of sheep into Queensland, therefore, usually exceed the exports, although in some years special circumstances cause a reversal of this rule. Last year, for instance, the exports more than quadrupled the imports, amounting, as previously stated, to 793,290 in excess of the imports. It is probable that the drought on the South-western border may have had something to do with this, as it may have induced some owners to part with sheep at a price that proved irresistible to southern graziers who were in a better position with respect to feed for their flocks.

The following statement contains a return of the number of horned cattle and sheep imported and exported during the last ten years:—

E.

Year.	Horned Cattle.		Sheep.	
	Inwards.	Outwards.	Inwards.	Outwards.
1884	11,135	78,406	556,558	434,893
1885	12,570	126,666	462,740	524,050
1886	1,852	118,827	672,903	175,845
1887	1,752	202,283	580,885	118,570
1888	1,111	188,748	234,167	248,804
1889	1,867	175,117	222,369	311,583
1890	3,684	494,944	386,625	472,282
1891	3,535	210,240	281,670	513,201
1892	6,923	130,989	463,323	421,318
1893	7,003	183,663	223,655	1,016,945

DISTRIBUTION OF HORNED CATTLE AND SHEEP.

The next question of interest is the manner in which horned cattle and sheep are distributed in the colony, and the losses or otherwise of stock in the several divisions. For information on this subject, Table F, given below, has been prepared, which shows the increase or decrease of stock in each division.

F.

Division.	Year.	Cattle.	Sheep.
NORTHERN	1892	2,092,334	1,642,766
	1893	2,159,756	1,527,475
	Numerical Increase in 1893	67,422	...
	Numerical Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	115,291
	Centesimal Increase in 1893	3.22	...
	Centesimal Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	7.02
CENTRAL	1892	1,932,400	9,441,923
	1893	1,931,434	7,820,723
	Numerical Decrease in 1893	966	1,621,200
	Centesimal Decrease in 1893	0.05	17.17
SOUTHERN	1892	2,566,682	10,623,621
	1893	2,602,010	9,348,817
	Numerical Increase in 1893	35,328	...
	Numerical Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	1,274,804
	Centesimal Increase in 1893	1.38	...
	Centesimal Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	12.00

This shows that the Northern Division escaped loss almost entirely. The runs in this part of the colony being largely devoted to depasturing cattle, the number of sheep is comparatively small, the decrease in the latter description of stock not being more than might well be occasioned by ordinary stock movements, while the additions in cattle are, from a depasturing point of view, more than an equivalent for the loss in sheep.

In the Central Division there was a decrease of more than one-sixth of the total number of sheep, and a small falling off in the number of horned cattle.

In the Southern Division the loss in sheep was very severe, although numerically and relatively less than in the Central Division.

Tables II., III., and IV., in the Appendix, contain full details respecting the particulars, of which Statement F is a summary.

From the first of these tables it will be seen that in the Southern Division the drought line extended easterly almost to Charleville. Comparisons between individual districts are for this year rendered somewhat illusive, stock movements, consequent on the effects of the drought, having upset the usual habitat of considerable numbers of cattle. The change in the mode of collecting the statistics this year may have probably caused some differences in the allotment of certain holdings.

Table III., which deals with the Central Division, at once shows the severe losses which occurred in the western part of that division, most probably from drought; within the Mitchell pastoral district, six petty sessions districts combined sharing a loss in sheep exceeding £1,250,000. The more easterly districts of Clermont and Springsure furnished satisfactory increases.

As already stated, the condition of live stock in the Northern Division was more satisfactory. From Table IV. it will be seen that, although in sheep decreases for the most part obtained, the aggregate number is insignificant. In cattle the decreases, although relatively considerable in some cases, are not in any instance numerically important.

PIG RAISING.

No circumstance in the stock records for 1893 has been so marked as the apparent extensive abandonment of this industry by farmers. The increased attention given to pig raising during previous years appeared to justify the assumption that this branch of farming would rapidly assume important dimensions. An inspection of the figures in the last column of Table V. of the Appendix supply ample grounds to lead to this deduction. The number of pigs in the colony were almost doubled during the four years ended 1891, whilst during the last two years the number has declined to the point reached five years since. The decrease in 1893 was no less than 48,844, and the means whereby the change was brought about will be seen on referring to Table V. before mentioned. No doubt 56,145 hogs have been slaughtered last year, and for the most part converted into bacon, 3,971,018 lb. of that commodity having been cured during 1893; but it is evident that the raising of pigs has fallen off beyond all precedent. With maize and other farm products realising the low prices which for the most part obtained throughout the year, the reason for the extensive decrease in the production of what has here and elsewhere proved one of the most profitable branches of the farmer's business, seems difficult to explain. Perhaps the price obtained for hogs in former years was too high to permit the manufactured article proving remunerative to the curer, and this may have been intensified during the financial crisis. The pressure from want of purchasing power in the community, and the consequent fall in the value of hog produce would naturally compel manufacturers to lower considerably the rate paid for the live animal; the value thus falling short of farmers' anticipations induced them in many cases to give up pig rearing; or it may be that many who during the period of high prices were able to make the industry pay, were under the altered circumstances of the last two years, either from bad management or other causes, unable to render the industry remunerative, and were induced to throw up the new venture in their disappointment at want of primary success.

BUTTER, HONEY, CHEESE, AND BACON.

Particulars respecting the production of these commodities as returned for last year, disclose considerable activity in each of these branches of industrial pursuit.

The increases shown are probably to some extent more apparent than real, the collection for 1892 not being so complete as that for the succeeding year; but this would only partially account for the increases, the larger portion of which are undoubtedly due to direct progress in production. This has had a noticeable effect in the quantity of some of the articles imported, in which there has been a considerable decrease.

G.

Petty Sessions District.	Butter.		Honey.		Cheese.	Bacon.	
	Producers.	Lbs.	Hives.	Lbs.	Lbs.	Pigs Slaughtered.	Lbs.
Allora	149	71,761	10	Nil.	12,388	606	55,392
Beaudesert	143	91,887	189	4,844	60,841	1,344	102,949
Brisbane	199	143,256	891	48,944	22,400	16,319	1,106,190
Bundaberg	145	80,935	188	11,200	5,420	717	70,827
Caboolture	70	53,388	720	31,668	65,239	555	36,942
Dalby	21	26,329	14	1,064	68,250	583	71,025
Dugandan	61	21,044	345	10,136	2,032	659	55,902
Esk	122	98,512	258	16,464	27,381	967	86,529
Gatton	189	79,284	322	12,124	2,626	3,617	324,469
Gympie	77	61,818	498	26,208	2,880	1,016	79,181
Harrisville	153	85,666	129	2,156	177,962	999	81,294
Highfields	173	95,627	245	3,220	814	1,113	118,333
Ipswich	145	108,166	320	22,260	112	1,926	89,410
Laidley	44	57,292	267	11,810	4,316	2,451	170,081
Logan	219	109,570	1,309	56,924	...	1,351	132,755
Mackay	45	61,578	196	17,584	112	254	29,503
Marburg	69	42,327	210	4,592	2,160	782	54,067
Maryborough	110	82,390	364	11,256	3,250	1,034	64,556
Redcliffe	138	203,460	298	10,164	200	1,192	20,896
Rockhampton	212	272,277	561	91,156	30,590	2,443	144,274
Rosewood	63	108,306	478	19,404	4,022	686	72,436
South Brisbane	78	111,676	745	27,272	112	666	{ 48,013 *9,133
Toowoomba	352	423,801	112	4,116	54,860	2,401	{ 290,563 *5,000
Townsville	77	167,215	64	728	300	1,629	5,605
Warwick	189	238,161	224	8,764	119,356	1,516	187,866
Woodford	45	55,884	132	9,184	6,000	158	14,607
Other Districts	512	402,956	2,908	164,809	143,325	9,161	{ 435,590 *7,630
Total, 1893	3,800	3,354,566	11,997	628,051	816,948	56,145	3,971,018
„ 1892	2,140	2,697,977	7,683	686,696	460,208	...	1,149,778

This Table includes the products of factories and private establishments.

* Pork.

BUTTER.—The impetus given to butter-making by the introduction of centrifugal separators and the establishment of central factories has not only resulted in a greatly increased output, but by ensuring a regular supply, at a reasonable price, of good and even butter, has apparently provided an extended market within the colony, because notwithstanding the large addition to the supply of home-produced butter, the imports of this article were not only not reduced, but actually exceeded those for 1892. The quantity of butter returned, compared with the number of producers, leads at once to the conclusion that the returns for 1893 are much more complete than those of the two preceding years. The quantity of butter to each producer was: 1891, 1,035 lb.; 1892, 1,267 lb.; 1893, 883 lb.

From these figures the inclusion of a much larger number of small butter makers in 1893 is at once apparent. In Toowoomba, where the largest quantity of butter was made, the average to each producer was 1,772 lb., which is much in excess of that of any other district.

HONEY.—Last year, the spring and summer being wet, was not a satisfactory one for the production of honey, the frequent rains during the best part of the season militating against successful storage. Many apiarists, moreover, lost many colonies, directly or indirectly, from the floods.

Eucalyptus honey was at one time credited with possessing anti-febrile, amongst other medicinal qualities, and was in considerable demand in consequence. The result of the researches of eminent analysts having failed to substantiate this theory, the special demand for it rapidly disappeared. Another disadvantage to successful trade in this article was caused by some unscrupulous persons who endeavoured to give more prominence to the flavour of the eucalypti in the honey, and adulterated it with essential oil to such an extent that they rendered the article so distasteful that the people of Europe have become shy of purchasing any "Australian" honey. The home market has thus to a great extent been practically closed to the colonies. The number of hives returned in 1893 greatly exceeded those for 1892, but the return given on that subject in 1892 was known to be far below what it should have been, a fact that was commented upon in the report for that year.

CHEESE.—The improved quality of the Queensland-made cheese in recent years has greatly enhanced the facilities for its disposal, thus affording encouragement for increased production. There was nearly twice as much cheese returned in 1893 as in 1892. A noticeable feature in comparing the figures of the two years is the large expansion of the manufacture in certain districts, for whilst in 1892 the greatest quantity made in any one district—namely, in Brisbane, was 22,400 lb., that quantity was exceeded in seven districts in 1893. The district in which the largest quantity was produced was Harrisville, from which the large quantity of 177,962 lb. was returned. There was only one other district—namely, Warwick, in which the production exceeded 100,000 lb.

BACON.—In none of the products under consideration was the increase so pronounced as in bacon, which rose from 1,149,778 lb. in 1892, to 3,971,018 lb. in 1893, or an increase of 245 per cent. in the twelve months. Of this increase, about one-eleventh only was in factory made bacon, the remainder being contributed by private persons. Two causes probably operated to bring about this great addition to the quantity of bacon cured last year. The first was the fact already noticed—namely, the low price paid by factories for pigs, induced many farmers to kill and cure for market themselves, thereby securing, if possible, for themselves the profits of the middleman; and, secondly, the financial depression which rendered it so difficult for farmers to command ready money for the purchase of meat and other household necessaries, caused many of them to kill their pigs, and make use of the pork or bacon for the sustenance of their families.

AGRICULTURE.

Tables VII. to XI. in the Appendix furnish full particulars respecting agricultural production during the past year. As already stated, the results of the industry are far from satisfactory. The returns show a reduction of the total area both under cultivation and under crop, and in many instances the produce obtained in 1893 was not so good as in the preceding year. Sugar, maize, and tobacco were the only crops of moment of which an additional area was planted. Of these, maize returned an average yield greatly below that of 1892—namely, a decrease of about 6 bushels per acre, floods in many of the principal maize producing districts having proved most disastrous to the cereal. Sugar was a much more successful crop, for not only was there larger area planted, but the produce of an increased area was put through the mill, from which an average return of about 1½ tons per acre was obtained, thus proving sugar production to be the most satisfactory undertaking in this branch of industry.

The unfortunate condition to which agriculture was reduced last year was almost entirely due to the heavy floods that were experienced in so many of the leading farming districts. The rich alluvial lands which border the various creek and rivers in the Logan, Moreton, and Wide Bay districts were the site of a large number of farms, and were naturally exposed to the disastrous effects of these visitations. The returns of agriculture may have also been adversely affected to some extent by the change brought about in the collection of live stock statistics, to which I have previously alluded, because a thorough collection, even of the agricultural returns, it is probable was not made. The constables of police being no longer compelled to visit every resident to obtain particulars respecting stock kept on each holding, have possibly failed to obtain agricultural schedules from a few of the cultivators of small areas.

Although great progress has been made of late years with respect to that section of production which relates to agriculture, there is still great room for improvement. There are still many sources of wealth that the land may, and in some cases does, yield for export, to which the farmer might give greater attention with advantage, even to the extent of at least meeting the home demand. It is, however, hopeless to expect this while farming operations are carried on in the careless manner that they are at present. This is evidenced by the fact that the returns frequently show that only one crop, usually maize, is cultivated during the year; and that crop having been taken off, the land is left to itself—not fallowed or manured in any way until next planting season. In addition to this, the same crop is planted year after year in the same ground, taking time after time the same constituents from the soil, until at last the return from the crop is so small as to be totally unremunerative to the farmer for the labour expended upon it. Unless farmers as a whole adopt a more scientific method of culture, complaints as to their failure to make a living out of the soil are sure to be prevalent. The Government have stepped in to assist farmers in this respect by the appointment of experts, who go about amongst them and show them the errors they have made in cultivation, and afford their advice to arrest mistakes. It is, therefore, their own fault if cultivators are not more alive to their own interests by following the directions given to them. There are annually imported into the colony goods connected with agriculture to the value of three-quarters of a million sterling, all of which could be grown here; for instance, the following items appear in the list of imports into the colony in 1892 and 1893:—

	1892.	1893.
Grain and various products thereof	£549,149	£497,821
Fruit	108,011	99,315
Vegetables	34,558	58,435
Other products of agriculture	107,773	84,999
	<hr/> £799,491	<hr/> £740,570

In addition, there are crops probably suited to certain localities which in the future may become a source of profit to the farmer, such as hop, tea, and opium, of which there were imported—

						In 1892.		In 1893.
Hops	...	...	...	...	...	£15,571	...	£17,464
Tea	...	...	...	...	...	136,814	...	117,489
Opium	...	...	...	...	...	30,727	...	51,494

But, of course, with the last-mentioned products, although I believe all could be grown here, yet the question of cheap labour must be taken into consideration which for the present renders the cultivation of such crops highly problematical.

It is, however, so far satisfactory to note a fall in the quantity of grain imported to the extent of over £50,000, also a slight decrease in the influx of fruits. On the other hand, the increase in vegetables is due to a large extent to the short production of potatoes and onions in the colony, thereby rendering it necessary to obtain such supplies from outside markets.

SIZE OF CULTIVATED HOLDINGS.

In my report for 1892 for the first time I included a table showing the number of proprietors engaged in farming pursuits and the respective size of the farm held by each. I now give a similar table for 1893, because I consider that a return of the number and size of holdings occupied by farmers is a question of some interest in connection with agricultural statistics. The table has been divided into holdings of under 5 acres; 5 acres and under 20; 20 acres and under 50; and 50 acres and upwards. According to this division the greatest number of farmers occupy areas of from 5 to 20 acres, namely:—4,616. The number of persons occupying under 5 acres and 20 to 50 acres are almost equal—namely, 2,711 and 2,724 respectively; and 890 persons were cultivating areas containing 50 acres and upwards.

The following is the table referred to, which, in addition to the particulars already mentioned, contains a return of the number of farmers in each petty sessions district and the size of the areas held:—

H.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	5 Acres and under.		5 to 20 Acres.		20 to 50 Acres.		50 Acres and up- wards.		TOTALS.	
	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.
Adavale ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allora ...	5	10	32	375	109	3,643	157	15,796	303	19,824
Aramac ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Augathella ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ayr ...	1	2	18	212	18	545	11	5,045	48	5,804
Banana ...	14	29	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	29
Barcaldine ...	4	4	1	17	1	31	...	...	6	52
Beaudesert ...	70	156	120	1,279	46	1,307	2	124	238	2,866
Blackall ...	6	15	1	6	...	...	...	...	7	21
Boulia ...	4	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Bowen ...	15	31	23	236	4	112	3	195	45	574
Brisbane ...	253	661	281	2,700	29	745	...	...	563	4,106
Bundaberg ...	25	72	124	1,381	112	3,410	72	17,478	333	22,341
Burke ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Caboolture ...	81	162	81	847	27	793	1	150	190	1,952
Cairns ...	20	56	44	470	15	485	23	4,173	102	5,184
Cammooweal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cape River ...	2	8	2	10	...	...	...	...	4	18
Cardwell ...	8	21	4	52	3	81	...	...	15	154
Charleville ...	6	15	6	45	...	...	...	...	12	60
Charters Towers ...	19	41	7	49	...	...	...	...	26	90
Clermont ...	29	53	6	66	2	55	...	...	37	174
Cleveland ...	55	109	45	472	12	345	...	...	112	926
Cloncurry ...	12	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	18
Condamine ...	1	2	1	6	...	...	...	...	2	8
Cook ...	31	82	33	329	5	159	3	166	72	736
Crow's Nest ...	30	79	43	413	4	99	...	...	77	591
Croydon ...	31	93	13	76	...	...	...	...	44	169
Cunnamulla ...	3	7	2	11	...	...	...	...	5	18
Dalby ...	51	116	66	661	11	288	1	150	129	1,215
Diamantina ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Douglas ...	6	18	11	136	5	168	7	934	29	1,256
Dugandan ...	20	58	153	1,838	167	4,611	8	506	348	7,013
Eidsvold ...	6	23	13	124	4	95	1	50	24	292
Emerald ...	7	6	4	33	...	...	...	...	11	39
Esk ...	62	109	93	1,103	39	1,097	6	405	200	2,714
Etheridge ...	27	67	17	199	4	108	1	50	49	424
Eulo ...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Gatton ...	53	126	311	3,662	179	5,204	25	1,774	568	10,766
Gayndah ...	25	45	4	37	...	...	...	...	29	82
Gin Gin ...	12	26	35	339	18	592	9	626	74	1,583
Gladstone ...	26	55	24	245	4	114	1	75	55	489
Goodna ...	6	16	15	166	13	403	4	316	38	901
Goondiwindi ...	17	32	8	75	1	22	...	...	26	129
Gympie ...	33	75	74	753	27	827	9	629	143	2,284
Harrisville ...	18	50	142	1,740	135	4,017	13	1,121	308	6,928
Herberton ...	33	86	81	853	27	810	18	1,669	159	3,418
Highfields ...	27	77	253	3,078	128	3,624	16	1,106	424	7,885
Hughenden ...	3	5	4	39	...	...	1	52	8	96
Hungerford ...	1	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Ingham ...	7	21	31	330	45	1,375	40	5,112	123	6,838
Inglewood ...	25	59	18	162	5	168	...	...	48	389
Ipswich ...	87	168	148	1,643	79	2,268	11	868	325	4,947
Isisford ...	5	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	12
Killarney ...	8	27	28	363	43	1,209	20	1,985	99	3,584
Laidley ...	12	33	115	1,464	215	6,437	66	5,222	408	13,156
Logan ...	103	260	212	2,285	44	1,221	4	283	363	4,049
Longreach ...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Mackay ...	58	145	143	1,638	110	3,271	58	13,978	369	19,032
Marburg ...	15	32	41	560	99	2,810	7	604	162	4,006
Maroochy ...	34	95	26	216	2	56	...	...	62	367
Maryborough ...	96	254	218	2,289	84	2,380	35	4,461	433	9,384

H.—continued.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	5 Acres and under.		5 to 20 Acres.		20 to 50 Acres.		50 Acres and up- wards.		TOTALS.	
	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.	Owners.	Acres.
Mitchell	8	21	6	58	5	155	1	160	20	394
Mourilyan	3	10	30	322	10	248	5	4,666	48	5,246
Muttaborra	3	6	1	6	...	...	...	...	4	12
Nanango	27	68	51	472	10	247	...	...	88	787
Nerang	27	53	57	644	43	1,279	17	1,558	144	3,534
Norman	4	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	9
Palmer	15	28	8	55	...	...	...	...	23	83
Ravenswood	16	39	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	39
Redcliffe	42	108	113	1,319	42	1,212	8	550	205	3,189
Rockhampton	160	418	130	1,281	39	1,071	10	1,265	339	4,035
Roma	21	41	40	435	26	811	7	597	94	1,884
Rosewood	9	21	59	826	146	4,205	7	362	221	5,414
St. George	33	59	9	96	3	94	...	...	45	249
St. Lawrence	7	18	8	83	...	...	...	...	15	101
Somerset	5	10	2	17	3	78	2	177	12	282
South Brisbane	141	309	119	1,234	36	1,033	5	419	301	2,995
Springsure	2	2	6	71	1	26	...	...	9	99
Stanthorpe	64	122	31	319	11	311	1	58	107	810
Surat	2	2	4	29	...	...	...	...	6	31
Tambo	10	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	20
Taroom	17	31	6	80	1	25	1	58	25	194
Tenningering	12	18	3	17	...	...	...	...	15	35
Thargomindah ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Thornborough	6	19	16	135	4	88	...	...	26	242
Tiaro	36	94	94	1,072	54	1,522	15	1,069	199	3,757
Toowoomba	282	649	439	4,928	280	8,690	76	8,570	1,077	22,837
Townsville	15	33	38	377	3	68	1	120	57	598
Warwick	61	142	115	1,384	123	3,966	101	9,757	400	15,249
Windorah	1	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
Winton ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Woodford	38	68	21	206	4	106	...	...	63	380
Yuelba	30	85	35	352	5	123	...	...	70	560
TOTALS	2,711	6,342	4,616	50,901	2,724	80,343	890	114,489	10,941	252,075

It will be observed from the foregoing that the total number of landed proprietors in 1893 was 10,941, which is 498 fewer than in 1892. This position is likely to be reversed at the termination of the current year, as doubtless many areas which have been dropped out of cultivation for a time in consequence of having been swept by floods will again be brought under tillage. In addition to which it is to be hoped that still further additions to the areas cultivated may be looked for as the outcome of the numerous co-operative farming communities now being established here.

Of the several groups of areas into which the holdings are divided, that showing farms not exceeding 5 acres in extent alone shows a decrease, both in the number of proprietors and in acreage in 1893, as compared with 1892. The other three groups each comprised a larger number of farms, although the acreage held by cultivators of from 5 to 20 acres was not so great as in the preceding year.

The average size of holding in each group for the last two years was—

	Under 5 Acres.	5 to 20 Acres.	20 to 50 Acres.	50 Acres and Upwards.	Total.
1892, Acres	2.38	11.99	30.96	141.87	22.80
1893, Acres	2.34	11.03	29.49	128.64	23.04

The holdings of 50 acres and upwards alone show any large alteration; these have decreased in average size by 9 per cent., or rather more than 13 acres. The decrease in the number of small cultivators has slightly raised the average size of all farms—namely, from 22.80 in 1892 to 23.04 in the following year.

As was to be expected the small farms, which may be more properly called vegetable gardens, for the most part are found in the vicinity of populous settlements, such as Brisbane, Rockhampton, and Toowoomba. Farms of from 5 to 50 acres for the most part are found in West Moreton, whilst wheat and sugar occasion considerable additions to the number of large holdings on the Downs and some of the coast districts to the north of Brisbane.

IRRIGATION.

Although the climatic conditions obtaining during the greater part of 1893, at least in the parts of the colony most devoted to agricultural pursuits, were not such as to enforce attention to irrigation, yet the area of cultivated land so treated considerably exceeded that of 1892. The following statement shows the areas under irrigation during 1891, 1892, and 1893:—

Year.	Area Irrigated.
1891... ..	3,869
1892... ..	3,840
1893... ..	5,287

Some years ago, when a series of dry seasons had been experienced, the necessity of a comprehensive system—such as has been established in Victoria, at Mildura, and in South Australia, at Renmark—was deemed imperative. The Government instituted preliminary inquiries to this end, and the subject at that time received considerable attention; but the more favourable seasons lately experienced, and the pressure of circumstances of more immediate importance which have engaged their attention, appear to have shelved the matter for the present. A recurrence of drought, which in time is inevitable, will, no doubt, again give the impress of essentiality to this important subject. This being the state of the question at present as a public measure, it is satisfactory to note that the advantages accruing from the artificial application of water to crops has not been lost sight of by private individuals who have been induced to turn their attention to agriculture. To prove this it is only necessary to state that returns were received from only twenty districts in 1892, whilst the records for last year show that irrigation was more or less carried on in twenty-nine districts, extending from Port Douglas in the North to Stanthorpe in the South, and from the eastern seaboard as far West as Muttaborra.

In six districts the area thus treated exceeded 100 acres, and one of these—namely, Ayr, contributed 73 per cent. of the total quantity of land so dealt with in that district. Sugar-cane comprised the larger portion of the crops irrigated. The following statement gives all the particulars on this subject which could be obtained from the returns:—

I.
IRRIGATION.

Petty Sessions District in which situated.	Acres Irrigated.	Original Source of Water Supply.	Means Employed for Procurement and Utilisation.	Crops Treated.	Remarks by Irrigator.
Ayr	3,875	Lagoons and tube wells	Steam pumps and gravitation; open trenches	Sugar-cane, maize, and potatoes	Crops of cane very satisfactory; on one plantation the irrigated land yielded as high as 50 tons of cane per acre, while the produce of the unirrigated land did not exceed from 15 to 20 tons
Barcaldine ...	61½	Alice River, artesian well, and creek	Steam pumps, windlass, and gravitation	Wheat, barley, oats, maize, millet, lucerne, sorghum, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	
Bowen	139½	Don River, Euri Creek, and wells	Steam, horse, and hand pumps; pipes and spouts	Oats, maize, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	One irrigator records a good yield of crops all through dry season; and another, that his first crops, though mostly experimental, were generally successful
Brisbane	6½	Enoggera Creek, Cedar Creek, and Cabbage-tree Creek	Windmill and steam pumps...	Maize, fruit, and vegetables	
Cape River ...	16	Cape River and Bett's Creek	Horse and barrel, Californian pump, and gravitation	Potatoes, pumpkins, cabbages, and other vegetables	
Charleville ...	9	Artesian well and Warrego River	Gravitation and horse pump	Wheat, potatoes, cabbages, pumpkins, and melons	
Charters Towers	15½	Spring and wells ...	Steam, horse, and windmill pumps, and gravitation; pipes and spouts	Maize, potatoes, and vegetables	
Cleveland ...	6	Wells	Windmill pumps; pipes and hose	Fruit and vegetables	
Cunnamulla ...	5	Artesian well ...	Gravitation	Wheat	Crop sown too late
Douglas	3	Creek	Gravitation	Rice	
Etheridge ...	7	Etheridge River and wells	Steam, windmill, and hand pumps; open trenches	Fruit and vegetables	
Gatton	55	Blackfellow's Creek	Steam pumps; open flumes and trenches	Panicum, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	One cultivator reports that irrigation answered very well, and another that he had no occasion to use his plant for the last two or three years, owing to abundant rainfall
Herberton ...	1	Creek	Gravitation	Potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	
Isisford	11	Barcoo River, Thornleigh Creek, and Lagoon	Horse pump and windlass ...	Fruit and vegetables	
Longreach ...	1½	Thompson River ...	Windlass... ..	Potatoes and grapes	
Mackay	292	Pioneer River, creek, and well	Steam and hand pumps and gravitation	Sugar-cane and potatoes ...	Good results
Maryborough	7	Well and creek ...	Windmill pump; pipes ...	Fruit and tobacco	Water from well only applied in very dry seasons, as it contains minerals, which would injure crops if used too freely
Muttaborra...	9	Thompson River and artesian well	Steam pumps and gravitation	Fruit and vegetables	
Rockhampton	170½	Scrubby Creek, wells and lagoons	Steam, windmill, and horse pumps; overhead troughs, pipes, and trenches	Maize, lucerne, sugar-cane, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	Fruit crops improved
South Brisbane	16	Bulimba Creek and well	Steam and windmill pumps; pipes and hose	Oats, maize, and vegetables	
St. George ...	11	Balonne River, creek, and well	Steam and horse pumps; spouts and open trenches	Maize, potatoes, and vegetables	One irrigator failed with potatoes and just saved maize
Stanthorpe ...	50	Quart Pot Creek and other streams	Steam and hand pumps and gravitation	Fruit and general crops ...	One cultivator has used irrigation plant for the last four years with good results
Tambo	1½	Artesian well ...	Gravitation	Wheat, maize, and garden	
Thornborough	1½	Well	Windmill pump and spouts ...	Fruit and vegetables	Water supply short owing to dry season
Tiaro	31½	River and dam ...	Steam pumps and trenches ...	Fruit and sugar-cane	
Toowoomba...	102½	Wells	Steam and windmill pumps; pipes and trenches	Lucerne, fruit, and vegetables	
Townsville ...	329½	River, creek, lagoon, and wells	Steam and horse pumps; open trenches	Maize, oats, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables	Good yield of oats where land irrigated light where not irrigated
Warwick	51	King's Creek ...	Steam pump and trenches ...	Lucerne	
Windorah ...	2	Cooper's Creek ...	Hand pump and wooden pipes	Grapes, potatoes, and vegetables	
Total	5,286½				

It appears that the supply of water for irrigation purposes was for the most part obtained from natural sources in their primitive condition. Various means were, however, employed to increase or store the yield, and in some cases wells, both surface and artesian, were utilised. As the collectors' schedules contemplated the inclusion of all the means employed for irrigating purposes, artificially applied to agricultural crops by any other means than hand watering, it was found that the methods by which water was obtained and conveyed to the land were as varied as were the sources of supply. In some few especially favoured localities it was found possible to obtain both these ends by means of gravitation alone. Overflowing bores in some cases contributed to this result, whilst in others streams were tapped by flumes or trenches at levels superior to the land to be irrigated. In some instances such primitive methods as the use of windlass and barrels were resorted to. In most instances, however, the water had to be lifted, pumps of various kinds being chiefly employed for the purpose, worked by steam, wind, water, horse or hand power, steam power, however, preponderating. The appliances used to convey the water to the land were also varied, such as trenches, flumes, pipes, and hose, and the water was for the most part utilised in limited quantities, the available supply not generally admitting of the land being completely flooded.

The crops treated comprised sugar-cane, various kinds of cereals, lucerne, and other hay crops, potatoes, fruit, and vegetables. With but few exceptions the results were most satisfactory, many proprietors emphasising the benefits of the system. A few failures were reported, due in most instances to the crop having been planted out of season. In one or two cases where the supply was obtained from wells, minerals with which the water was impregnated operated disadvantageously on the crop.

At Table VII. and VIII. in the Appendix full particulars will be found respecting the areas and crops cultivated, with the results obtained therefrom, in each petty sessions district, grouped geographically.

A summary, giving the average yield secured from each crop in each division of the colony, east and west of the Main Range is subjoined :—

J.
AVERAGE YIELD OF CROPS.

Division.	Description.	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		Sugar to Acres Crushed.	Cotton Ginned.	Arrow- root.	Tobacco, Dried leaf.	Hay of all Kinds.	VINES.		Bananas.	Pine- Apples.	Oranges.
		Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rice.	Rye.	English.	Sweet.						Wine.	Table Grapes.			
SOUTHERN	East of Main Range	Bushels. 10-95	Bushels. 11-87	Bushels. 11-94	Bushels. 16-04	Bushels. 18-75	Bushels. 14-58	Tons. 1-97	Tons. 4-03	Tons 1-72	Lb. 152-90	Lb. 2,415-01	Cwt. 5-00	Tons. 2-01	Gallons. 149-41	Lb. 1,724-70	Dozen. 1,532-74	Dozen. 451-64	Dozen. 1,192-88
	West of Main Range... ..	14-32	21-37	18-94	22-78	44-56	18-62	2-17	2-94	...	...	215-00	9-74	1-57	165-68	2,515-12	50-00	12-00	3,059-20
	Total Southern... ..	14-28	20-04	16-91	17-99	38-66	16-02	2-02	4-01	1-72	152-90	2,390-43	9-64	1-78	157-76	2,156-15	1,530-34	450-90	1,412-45
CENTRAL	East of Main Range	5-00	13-43	18-00	20-58	...	12-50	2-30	4-85	1-81	...	...	8-00	2-40	...	1,730-06	1,244-35	259-17	684-44
	West of Main Range... ..	14-67	...	40-00	17-50	...	...	2-44	2-40	...	...	...	...	1-53	...	2,236-89	...	...	440-00
	Total Central	8-63	13-43	29-00	20-54	...	12-50	2-31	4-78	1-81	...	...	8-00	2-40	...	1,833-73	1,244-35	259-17	680-19
NORTHERN	East of Coast Range ... ..	...	...	...	35-79	40-70	48-13	2-48	4-63	1-76	302-00	1,603-85	9-46	1-93	45-00	2,134-22	7,599-60	394-52	2,314-04
	West of Coast Range... ..	Nil	...	...	21-88	...	...	2-65	2-67	...	...	...	...	4-03	...	1,802-53	645-12	295-17	625-76
	Total Northern... ..	Nil	...	...	34-71	40-70	48-13	2-51	4-39	1-76	302-00	1,603-85	9-46	2-07	45-00	1,917-35	7,444-40	381-96	2,203-09
TOTAL COLONY		14-25	19-96	16-96	19-50	40-61	19-11	2-07	4-22	1-74	153-68	2,337-17	9-64	1-84	157-41	2,135-23	4,371-15	428-11	1,633-87

The cultivation of cereals is almost entirely confined to the Southern Division of the colony, although the returns obtained from the limited areas planted in the Central and Northern divisions for the most part appear to justify an extension of their cultivation in those localities. Similar remarks would apply to the culture of root crops in the Central Division, the results there secured from potatoes, both English and sweet, being more favourable than in either of the other divisions. The best return from sugar-cane—namely, $1\frac{8}{10}$ tons to the acre, was also secured in the same division, which should encourage an extension of sugar production in the Fitzroy basin. The single instance of cotton planting in the Northern Division gave most satisfactory results, but as the area from which the crop was taken consisted only of a single acre, the result cannot be regarded as typical of what might be obtained from a larger area. Tobacco and wine, the production of which are practically confined to the Southern Division, afford best results to the farmers to the west of the Main Range. On the other hand, pineapples and bananas are only grown in the coastal districts; the best returns from pineapples being obtained in the South, Brisbane and its vicinity contributing the main part of the crop harvested from the total area. The average yield of bananas in the two Northern districts of Mourilyan and Cairns was five times greater than in the Southern Division; the areas planted with that crop in the districts named exceeding in the aggregate 900 acres, an area but little short of half the total acreage planted with this fruit. The best result from orangeries was obtained in the Southern Division, to the west of the Main Range, the returns from the neighbourhood of Toowoomba being exceptionally good.

WHEAT.—The diminished results obtained by cultivators of this cereal in 1892, as compared with the two previous years, combined with lower prices ruling for the produce, appears to have checked the increased attention that was being paid to the cultivation of wheat during the preceding year.

There were 31,750 acres sown with wheat in 1893, being 1,582 acres less than in 1892. Of the area so planted in the former year, 2,757 acres were either mown for hay or cut as green food, being 1,167 acres in excess of the area thus dealt with in 1892. On the other hand, in 1893 there were only 582 acres returned as having been entirely unproductive, which is much below the average of the area thus classed during the previous decade. The average yield per acre on the area intended for grain in 1893 was within a fraction of the result for 1892.

From the following statement may be gathered the particulars respecting this crop for the last five years :—

K.

Year.	Total Extent of Land Sown with Wheat.	Increase on the Previous Year.	Decrease on the Previous Year.	Total Area for Grain.	Return to the Total Acreage Sown.	Return to the Acreage for Grain.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bush. lb.	Bushels.
1889	15,861	6,259	...	8,459	8 28	15·88
1890	12,063	...	3,798	10,390	17 14	20·20
1891	20,519	8,456	...	19,306	19 7	20·32
1892	33,332	12,813	...	31,742	13 53	14·57
1893	31,750	...	1,582	28,993	13 1	14·25

The mean average yield for the five years included in the statement was 16·28 bushels per acre, a return more than double the average result secured by South Australia, and about 60, 34, and 33 per cent. in excess of the averages of Victoria, New South Wales, and Western Australia, each respectively. Although this result falls much short of the average of the United Kingdom, where the yield for 1893 has been estimated at 26 bushels per acre, rising from 22 bushels in Wales to $36\frac{1}{2}$ in Scotland, yet it considerably exceeds that of some of the great wheat districts of the United States, in some of which the estimate for 1893 ranges from 8 to 9 bushels, while the yield for the whole territory for that year is put down at from 11 to 12 bushels.

The open Downs lands of Queensland apparently offer facilities for the economic production of the cereal, of which farmers would no doubt avail themselves more extensively if they could obtain a more remunerative price for their produce.

A reference to Table IX. in the Appendix affords full information relative to the cultivation of wheat in each petty sessions district, grouped according to the three great divisions of the colony.

In the Southern Division, to the west of the Great Dividing Range, are situated the districts which, for all practical purposes, solely contribute the wheat production of the colony. During 1893 27,982 acres, or 98 per cent. of the total area under wheat, was planted in the locality referred to, and 85 per cent. of this, or 84 per cent. of the total area, was located in the three districts of Allora, Toowoomba, and Warwick. In 1892 there were altogether forty-two districts in the colony in which wheat was cultivated to a greater or less extent; the number was increased by two in 1893. In the latter year an experimental area was planted in Hughenden, a district in the Northern Division to the west of the Coast Range, which, however, unfortunately proved unproductive. In the Central Division 3 acres were planted as far west as Barcaldine, with a result somewhat better than the average obtained in the whole colony. In consequence of the satisfactory yield of wheat in that locality in previous years, steps were taken to provide flour mills at Roma, with the result that the area sown in the districts in that vicinity was 50 per cent. greater in 1893 than in the preceding year. The return from the increased cultivation was not, however, as successful as might be desired, the average yield having been a little over 11 bushels to the acre, although this was 2 bushels per acre in advance of the results obtained in the same localities in 1892.

In Allora, where 9,828 acres, or nearly one-third of the total wheat area, were cultivated, the average result obtained did not quite reach 14 bushels to the acre, whilst in Warwick the average return approximated 17 bushels.

Gatton and Laidley were the two largest wheat-producing districts east of the Main Range; yet in the two combined no more than 243 acres were planted. From that area a return of nearly 13 bushels to the acre was obtained, which would appear to justify an increased area of wheat culture in the places referred to.

A noticeable feature in connection with the wheat crops of late years is the slight extent to which they have been affected by rust. This harmful visitation at one time threatened to crush altogether the cultivation of this cereal in Queensland, and thus force the colony to depend entirely on foreign markets for its breadstuffs. The comparative immunity from this disease at present is no doubt to some extent due to better seasons, yet the principal features in producing this result may be credited to the improved system of cultivation, and the judicious selection of rust-proof seed.

Complaints were made in some instances by farmers of damage done to the wheat crop by hares. These rodents, imported and turned loose for purposes of sport, have, it would appear, become too well acclimatised, and multiply fast. Although their increase is trivial as compared with rabbits, yet it is evident that they occasion considerable mischief to cereal crops on the Downs.

Notwithstanding the great progress made lately in the production of wheat in the colony, a large field yet remains open for further extending operations in that direction when it is considered that wheat and breadstuffs equivalent to 2,013,595 bushels of wheat were imported into Queensland last year, the greater portion of the import being in the form of flour. As the latter portion of the imported breadstuffs are subject to an impost in the form of duty equal to, say, 5d. per bushel, the local producer is at least protected to that extent.

OATS.—The many purposes for which this crop is grown in Queensland—viz., for grain, for hay, and for green fodder, shows that it is a crop considered of much importance to the farmer. Particulars respecting the area sown for grain in 1892 and 1893 are as under:—

L.

Year.							Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
							Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	591	12,965	21·94
1893	...	...	...	...	...	...	606	12,095	19·96
Increase in 1893							15	...	...
Decrease in 1893							...	870	1·98

It will be observed from the foregoing statement that whilst a slightly increased area was planted in 1893, the average production in that year was less than in the previous one. The average yield in 1893 on the area reaped for grain was 19·46 bushels per acre. This return, though less by one-third than that of the United Kingdom, exceeds the average production of this grain in several European countries, although not equal to that of several of the other Australasian colonies. Under the circumstances, in view of the fact that the consumption of oats and their products last year exceeded the local production by 172,448 bushels of grain and 1,880,296 lb. of meal, of a total value of £10,850, exclusive of duty, amounting to £9,207, a larger measure of attention to the cultivation of this crop might be expected, the foreign producers being handicapped to the extent of 8d. duty, plus freight, upon every bushel sent to Queensland, a charge equal to 20 to 25 per cent. on the selling value of the article. This, on the total quantity imported—viz., 172,448 bushels, appears at first glance of little moment, but coupled with the fact that apparently all the oatmeal used in the colony is imported, although protected to the extent of 4s. per hundredweight, it appears strange that even if the produce of the cereal was insufficient to pay the agriculturist for his labour, that the grain should not be imported and ground here, and so save this additional impost to the consumer.

Although there was a slight decrease in the average return of oats reaped for grain, the produce of the area mown for hay in 1893 exceeded that of the previous year by 987 tons, the total production of this article in 1893 having been 17,831 tons, compared with 16,844 tons in the previous year. Notwithstanding this large return, a considerable quantity of oaten hay was imported during 1893.

BARLEY.—This cereal occupies so little attention at the hands of the farmer that fluctuations comparatively large possess little or no significance. There were 110 acres, or 29 per cent., more land planted, and 1,427 more bushels garnered in 1893 than in 1892; but the average yield was less than in the previous year, as will be seen from the subjoined table:—

M.

Year.							Area for Grain.	Produce.	Average Produce per Acre.
							Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	385	6,969	18·10
1893	...	...	...	...	...	...	495	8,396	16·96
Increase in 1893							110	1,427	...
Decrease in 1893							...	...	1·14

The return per acre above shown is about half of that obtained to the acre from barley in the United Kingdom. The malting varieties of this cereal appear ill-adapted to the soil and climate of Queensland; and as brewers do not favour the locally-grown grain for their business, it may be that the climate has some ill effect on the malting process as hitherto practised, and until some measures are taken to overcome this difficulty it is probable that for some time brewers must be prepared to import the bulk of the malt they use. For the farmers' interest this is to be regretted, as £36,073 worth was imported last year, principally from the southern colonies. The return obtained from this cereal last year was considerably below the average, which is about 22 bushels to the acre. Notwithstanding this decrease, the return referred to is greater than that of the other Australian colonies, but it is exceeded in Tasmania and New Zealand. Victoria, under a high protective tariff, raises about half the barley crop of Australasia, and has the advantage that barley grown there is better adapted for malting than that from more northern colonies. Even as a green food barley does not appear to be favoured by the Queensland farmers, as only 650 acres were planted for this purpose in 1893, being an increase of only 22 acres on the area sown for the same purpose in the previous year.

MAIZE.—This cereal is more in favour with the agriculturalist than any other; so much so that in 1893 38 per cent. of the total land under crop was devoted to maize production.

There were 1,384 more acres planted in 1893 than in the previous year. From this increased area, however, there was a smaller quantity of grain obtained, the decrease amounting to rather more than half a million bushels, the average yield being 25·32 bushels in 1892, and only 19·50 in 1893. The following statement shows the gross results for that year:—

N.

Year.								Grain.		Average Produce per Acre.
								Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1892	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	92,172	2,333,553	25·32
1893	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93,556	1,824,108	19·50
Increase in 1893								1,384	...	...
Decrease in 1893								...	509,445	5·82

This average is the lowest recorded, except that for the year 1889. This, as previously stated, was chiefly due to the destruction by floods of a large area planted with this crop. The great losses thus occasioned, taken in conjunction with the very low price for maize ruling during the early part of 1893, are likely to force upon agriculturalists the necessity of paying greater attention to other crops; and it is, therefore, natural that they are at present using every means in their power to place themselves in a position to grow sugar-cane, which, with the aid extended to small sugar-growers by the Legislature, is likely to supplant the maize crop in future years. The losses to maize-growers by the unprecedented floods in the early part of 1893, when the crop was just maturing, are shown at once by comparing the returns given of the crop of 1892 and 1893 in some of the principal maize-growing districts mentioned in Table P.

O.

Petty Sessions District.	Area Planted for Grain.			Yield of Grain.			Average Yield per Acre.		
	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase * or Decrease †	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase * or Decrease †	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase * or Decrease †
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Laidley ...	9,403	9,273	+ 130	190,977	123,135	+ 67,842	20·31	13·28	+ 7·03
Gatton ...	6,677	6,647	+ 30	152,212	126,544	+ 25,668	22·80	19·04	+ 3·76
Toowoomba ...	6,202	6,377	* 175	165,262	132,940	+ 32,322	26·65	20·85	+ 5·80
Dugandan ...	5,095	6,297	* 1,202	115,785	123,617	* 7,832	22·73	19·63	+ 3·10
Allora ...	4,435	5,252	* 817	97,839	90,687	+ 7,152	22·06	17·27	+ 4·79
Highfields ...	4,454	5,114	* 660	130,606	133,467	* 2,861	29·32	26·09	+ 3·23
Rosewood } Marburg }	9,853	{ 4,881 3,218 }	+ 1,754	191,863	{ 64,591 36,366 }	+ 90,906	19·47	12·47	+ 7·00
Warwick ...	3,966	4,557	* 591	116,507	122,826	* 6,319	29·38	26·95	+ 2·43
Harrisville ...	5,841	4,442	+ 1,399	172,226	65,115	+ 107,111	29·49	14·66	+ 14·83
Ipswich ...	2,453	3,483	* 1,030	56,103	24,655	+ 31,448	22·87	7·08	+ 15·79
Herberton ...	1,929	2,481	* 552	52,073	90,951	* 38,878	26·99	36·66	* 9·67
Nerang ...	2,361	2,245	+ 116	55,723	29,314	+ 26,409	23·60	13·06	+ 10·54
Tiaro ...	2,144	2,234	* 90	77,159	22,001	+ 55,158	35·99	9·85	+ 26·14
Beaudesert ...	1,917	2,180	* 263	61,783	55,814	+ 5,969	32·23	25·60	+ 6·63
Esk ...	1,527	1,986	* 459	32,098	32,308	* 210	21·02	16·27	+ 4·75
Cairns ...	1,715	1,979	* 264	55,995	88,767	* 32,772	32·65	44·85	* 12·20
Maryborough ...	2,731	1,819	+ 912	75,269	44,708	+ 30,561	27·56	24·58	+ 2·98
Killarney ...	2,100	1,803	+ 297	57,178	48,958	+ 8,220	27·23	27·15	+ ·08
Redcliffe ...	2,078	1,722	+ 356	53,207	18,474	+ 34,733	25·60	10·73	+ 14·87
Gympie ...	1,257	1,320	* 63	38,780	40,069	* 1,289	30·85	30·36	+ ·49
Bundaberg ...	1,966	1,223	+ 743	63,926	34,389	+ 29,537	32·52	28·12	+ 4·40
Logan ...	1,434	1,149	+ 285	33,858	23,575	+ 10,283	23·61	20·52	+ 3·09
Gin Gin ...	1,130	1,074	+ 56	43,972	40,093	+ 3,879	38·91	37·33	+ 1·58
Brisbane ...	862	1,025	* 163	25,269	3,002	+ 22,267	29·31	2·93	+ 26·38
Douglas ...	576	928	* 352	24,190	26,647	* 2,457	42·00	28·71	+ 13·29
Ayr ...	877	712	+ 165	18,683	20,549	* 1,866	21·30	28·86	* 7·56
Ingham ...	453	455	* 2	14,660	15,837	* 1,177	32·36	34·81	* 2·45

Although the maize crop for 1892 was much less productive than that of the preceding year, yet, with the exception of four Northern localities, every district mentioned in the table shows a decreased average yield for 1893 as compared with 1892. The phenomenal flood in the Brisbane watershed affected the recorded average yields of Brisbane, Ipswich, and Harrisville. The excessive flood in the Mary River left its mark on the returns from Tiaro; whilst the losses apparent in Redcliffe and Nerang were due to floods in the Pine and Nerang Rivers respectively. In Laidley, the premier maize district of the colony as regards acreage, there were 9,273 acres planted, which returned, however, only 123,135 bushels—an average yield of 13·28 bushels per acre. Of the total acreage under maize, 40,227 acres, or 43 per cent., were returned from the West Moreton districts; the Darling Downs contributing 23,103 acres, or nearly 25 per cent. In Bundaberg the increased area demanded for sugar no doubt had, to some extent, an effect on the acreage planted with maize, still the quantity of the cereal produced in that district probably satisfied local requirements, or, if not, the freight from Brisbane would not prove an important consideration to those who required further supplies for that district; but in the Northern districts it was otherwise, and the increased activity in cane cultivation appears to accentuate the demand for maize, and it was, therefore, necessary that an increased area should be planted in most

districts to meet the demand. In the district of Ayr, however, a small decrease in the areas planted is recorded, although the yield was more satisfactory than in 1892. To enable a more extended comparison of average crops in certain districts, to be made, the following table has been prepared :—

P.

Police District.	Petty Sessions District.	Maize.—Average Yield per Acre.					
		Three Years ended 1888.	Four Years ended 1889.	Five Years ended 1890.	Five Years ended 1891.	Five Years ended 1892.	Five Years ended 1893.
		Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Allora	Allora	16'28	13'02	16'00	18'35	18'65	19'30
Brisbane	Brisbane	24'43	24'09	22'14	23'74	25'11	17'99
	Redcliffe						
	South Brisbane	30'53	30'90	30'59	31'52	30'99	32'04
Bundaberg	Bundaberg						
	Gin Gin	37'85	42'50	40'75	41'44	40'96	41'82
Cairns	Cairns						
Douglas	Douglas	43'93	39'18	44'23	43'21	42'95	36'48
Gatton	Gatton	19'45	17'99	19'22	21'05	21'52	20'05
	Laidley						
Gympie	Gympie	30'52	30'34	29'17	27'99	28'68	29'06
Highfields	Highfields	23'02	18'31	21'92	25'42	26'00	25'55
Ipswich	Ipswich	24'93	22'35	22'96	24'57	24'39	18'64
Logan... ..	Beaudesert	20'18	21'09	20'93	21'92	25'66	25'26
	Logan						
Marburg	Marburg	18'29	16'97	16'84	20'22	22'70	20'38
	Rosewood						
Maryborough	Maryborough	25'14	27'14	26'58	27'76	28'05	27'87
Normanby	Dugandan	21'00	18'95	19'55	21'12	23'09	22'17
	Harrisville						
Tiaro	Tiaro	32'17	29'88	27'28	28'72	28'55	24'23
Toowoomba	Toowoomba	19'92	17'58	19'24	21'85	23'42	23'39
Warwick	Killarney	26'83	22'09	23'57	25'83	25'50	25'41
	Warwick						

An inspection of this table at once shows where the decadence has taken place in the average yields in districts where maize has been the principal crop. The average in previous years ranged from about 17 to 25 in Allora, Marburg, Gatton, Normanby, Toowoomba, Logan, Brisbane, Highfields, Ipswich, and Warwick; from 27 to 31 in Maryborough, Tiaro, Gympie, and Bundaberg; and from 41 and 42 in Cairns and Douglas. The first of these averages is much below that of Australia and Canada, in both of which the yield is about 30 bushels per acre. In the others the yield is superior to that of the United States—viz., from 23 to 24 bushels. In New South Wales, the colony in which the greatest quantity of this cereal is produced in Australia, the average is 31 bushels per acre. In New Zealand and Victoria the average is much higher, but the output is comparatively limited.

In the majority of the districts mentioned in Table O, however, the yield in 1893 was much below the average yield in all the places above mentioned. The decrease in production in these districts ranged from 1'58 bushels to the acre in Gin Gin to 7'00 bushels in Marburg; but in some the decrease was enormous, ranging from 26'38 bushels in Brisbane to 14'86 in Harrisville. The best average yields per acre were in Cairns district—viz., 44'85 bushels to the acre; Gin Gin, 37'33; Herberton, 36'66; Ingham, 34'81; Gympie, 30'36; Ayr, 28'86; Douglas, 28'71; Bundaberg, 28'12; Killarney, 27'15; Warwick, 26'95; Highfields, 26'09; Beaudesert, 25'60; Maryborough, 24'58; Toowoomba, 20'85; and Logan, 20'52.

RICE (*Paddy*).—The advance made in the production of this cereal in 1892 was not maintained last year, the acreage under rice having been reduced to about midway between the areas of 1891 and 1892. Particulars respecting this crop for the past five years were as follow :—

Q.

Year.	Acres.	Bushels.	Average Bushels.
1889	249	4,121	16'55
1880	300	10,553	35'18
1891	457	21,461	46'96
1892	1,113	33,380	29'99
1893	789	32,043	40'61

It will be seen that 789 acres in 1893 produced almost as much paddy as the larger area planted the previous year. The average yield for the former year, although not so good as the crop for 1891, was much above the average.

Much of the paddy produced in the past has been of such poor quality as to be almost unsaleable, which has greatly militated against an extended cultivation of this grain. The selection of seed is, of course, an important factor in the cultivation of all cereals; but with rice this would appear to be particularly the case, as the kinds and qualities are perhaps more varied than with most other grains. The difficulties of obtaining suitable seed have not been confined to ignorance on the part of the cultivator, but have been largely due to the difficulty of securing reliable agents at the places from whence imported through whom to indent the kind required.

Of the 7,857,272 lb. consumed in Queensland in 1893, 7,044,516 lb., or £35,618 worth, were imported, a quantity equal to 90 per cent. of the total consumption.

The cultivation of rice is practically confined to the coast districts of the North. Although grown to some extent in thirteen districts, 94 per cent. of the total cultivation was found in four districts alone—namely, Cairns, Port Douglas, Cook, and Mackay.

R.

District.	Position in the Colony.	Area Planted.	Quantity Produced.	Average Yield per Acre.
		Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Cairns	Northern Division, Sea-coast	542	25,010	46·14
Cook	" " " " " " " " " " " "	51	1,389	27·24
Douglas	" " " " " " " " " " " "	123	3,271	26·59
Herberton	" " " " " " " " " " " "	9	290	32·22
Mackay	" " " " " " " " " " " "	24	530	22·08
Mourilyan	" " " " " " " " " " " "	5	200	40·00
Brisbane	Southern Division, East of Main Range	1	3	3·00
Crow's Nest	" " " " " " " " " " " "	2	4	2·00
Logan	" " " " " " " " " " " "	5	143	28·60
Allora	Southern Division, West of Main Range	18	1,110	61·67
Highfields	" " " " " " " " " " " "	5	10	2·00
Killarney	" " " " " " " " " " " "	2	3	1·50
Toowoomba	" " " " " " " " " " " "	2	80	40·00
TOTAL		789	32,043	40·61

In Cairns, on the whole 542 acres planted an average of 46 bushels per acre was maintained. In the three other districts mentioned, a much less satisfactory yield was obtained. The best result is shown in Allora, where the 18 acres planted returned the high average of nearly 62 bushels to the acre. The crops obtained from the small area sown in Toowoomba was sufficiently good to justify planting a more extended area.

RYE.—There was a larger area of this cereal reaped in 1893 than in the previous year, although the return obtained was not so satisfactory as those of the two preceding years. This will be seen from the following statement:—

Year.	Acres.	Yield, bushels.	Average per Acre, bushels.
1890	169	2,672	15·81
1891	538	12,434	23·11
1892	360	8,001	22·22
1893	496	9,479	19·11

Gatton, Laidley, and Allora are the localities where the grain was principally cultivated; these three districts contributing three-sevenths, and the Southern Division 90 per cent., of the total area planted. The remaining 10 per cent. (there only being two acres in the Central Division) was planted in the Cairns and Mourilyan in the North, and furnished an average yield 300 per cent. better than the crops in the Southern part of the colony. The return from these districts, although the area planted was so limited, materially assisted to raise the total average of the colony.

ENGLISH POTATOES.—There was a reduced area devoted to the cultivation of this tuber in 1893. This was due to the condition of the ground in many districts, which just at the proper season for planting was rendered in many places quite unfit for a tuber crop owing to the superabundant moisture in the ground caused by the continued wet weather. The yield, moreover, was far from satisfactory, being one-third of a ton per acre worse than in 1892, and considerably below the average of the last decenniad. West Moreton contributed the lion's share of this crop. The value of imported potatoes last year was £41,431.

SWEET POTATOES.—Although a slightly larger area was planted with this root than in 1892, the return was far from satisfactory; the average, indeed, being the lowest recorded for the past ten years. A considerably smaller area was planted in the Southern portion of the colony than in the previous year, and in that part the poorest return was obtained. This was another instance of the mischief brought about by the floods. Thirty-six per cent. of the total area under sweet potatoes in the Southern Division was returned from Brisbane district and its immediate vicinity.

COTTON.—A revival of the cultivation of this plant was anticipated for some time past—at least, in the West Moreton district—owing to the fact that a factory had been established at Ipswich for the manufacture of goods from this product. It was thought that the cotton factory might not only itself prove very remunerative as a heavily protected industry, but that, by the establishment within the colony of a market for the raw fibre, farmers might be induced to give cotton a fresh trial. As an inducement to this end the Government offered a bonus of £5,000 for the first 5,000 yards of cotton goods made within the colony, the product of Queensland-grown cotton. So far as the institution of a factory was concerned, the object was accomplished. A company was formed, and, as previously stated, a factory erected at Ipswich. The quantity of goods required to be manufactured was turned out, and the bonus earned, claimed, and paid; the result, however, of an extended cultivation of the plant has not up to the present been equal to expectation, the area planted in 1893—191 acres—being 526 acres short of the area planted in 1892, a falling off so great as to presage little for the future success of this branch of agriculture.

The return obtained from the area planted in 1893—namely, 153 lb. of ginned cotton to the acre—was not a good one. In the Northern part of the colony an experiment was tried with a solitary acre of cotton, which gave a return of about twice the yield obtained in West Moreton. Whether the return given by the experimental patch there will lead to future extended cultivation of the plant in that part of the colony remains uncertain at present.

SUGAR.—The condition of the sugar industry affords by far the most satisfactory matter for comment of all the agricultural industries referred to in this Report.

Last year there was a substantial increase in the area planted with cane as well as in the area crushed, the quantity of sugar produced, and the average yield to the acre as compared with the figures

for 1892. Several causes have operated to induce a greater activity in sugar-planting, amongst which may be mentioned the renewal of the introduction of Polynesian labour under improved regulations, the maintenance of a fairly satisfactory price for sugar, and improvements in the mode of manufacture which tended to greatly decrease the cost of production; in addition to which may be mentioned the failure of other investments of a more speculative character, the initiation of a policy of subdivision by owners of large estates whereby small farmers were enabled to grow cane themselves and be certain of obtaining a remunerative price for their product from the mill-owners, and last, but not least, the special encouragement given by the Government towards the establishment of central mills after "*The Sugar Works Guarantee Act of 1893*" was passed by the Legislature.

The establishment of a large refinery in Brisbane by the Colonial Sugar Company, whereby the conversion of low-class sugars into a product of the first quality can be effected within the colony, and where sugar-growers can dispose of low-class sugar at a fairly remunerative price, has further tended to encourage this industry.

The average annual consumption of sugar by the Australasian colonies is about 200,000 tons, and although competition may be looked for from other portions of the group, as at present from a comparatively limited area in New South Wales, and the probable institution of beet-sugar growing in Victoria, yet with the present consumption, sugar offers an unopposed field for Queensland enterprise. Even if the output of the colony were double what it is now, it would be unnecessary to look further than Australasia for a market.

A comparison of the sugar crops of 1892 and 1893 in this colony is given in the following statement:—

S.

Year.					Area under Cane for Sugar.	Area Crushed.	Total Yield.	Average Yield per Acre.
					Acres.	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
1892	...	...	...	...	55,520	40,572	61,368	1.51
1893	...	...	...	...	59,251	43,670	76,146	1.74
Increase in 1893					3,731	3,098	14,778	0.23
Decrease in 1893					...	...	...	...

Although the advance in sugar production made in 1893 is an important one, there is little doubt it is but the initiation of a much greater extension of the industry, consequently the output for the present year may be expected to be greatly exceeded in future.

The progress made in each district which contributed to this branch of agriculture will be seen from the following table:—

T.

Petty Sessional District.	Cultivation.			Production.					
	Area in 1892.	Area in 1893.	Increase * or Decrease† in 1893.	1892.		1893.		Increase* or Decrease† in 1893.	
				Area Crushed.	Produce.	Area Crushed.	Produce.	Area Crushed.	Produce.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.						
Ayr	3,711	4,122	* 411	2,555	2,769	3,079	5,660	* 524	* 2,891
Bundaberg	18,874	19,303	* 429	13,157	24,628	13,699	23,423	* 542	† 1,205
Caboolture	131	143	* 12	86	89	97	98	* 11	* 9
Cairns	1,235	1,426	* 191	1,150	1,465	1,400	1,750	* 250	* 285
Cleveland	59	53	† 6	20	14	16	16	† 4	* 2
Gin Gin	17	196	* 179	...	...	...	...	...	...
Harrisville	14	7	† 7	11	8	7	7	† 4	† 1
Ingham	5,586	5,190	† 396	4,786	7,244	3,300	7,457	† 1,486	* 213
Logan	1,236	1,093	† 138	646	968	1,082	1,329	* 436	* 361
Mackay	15,813	16,552	* 739	11,778	15,156	13,924	24,872	* 2,146	* 9,716
Marburg	200	235	* 35	200	240	209	229	* 9	† 11
Maryborough	3,798	5,661	* 1,863	2,267	3,839	2,170	4,725	† 97	* 886
Mourilyan	3,779	3,900	* 121	3,354	4,418	3,880	5,266	* 526	* 848
Nerang	370	337	† 33	245	284	287	392	* 42	* 108
Rockhampton	530	827	* 297	228	200	500	907	* 272	* 707
Tiaro	167	201	* 34	89	46	20	15	† 69	† 31
Totals, 1892	55,520	...	...	40,572	61,368	...	...	...	...
Totals, 1893 ... ..	...	59,251	...	...	...	43,670	76,146	...	...
Total Increase in 1893 ... ..	...	...	* 4,311	...	...	...	...	* 4,758	* 16,026
Total Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	...	† 580	...	...	...	...	† 1,660	† 1,248
Net Increase in 1893 ... ..	...	...	* 3,731	...	...	...	...	* 3,098	* 14,778
Net Decrease in 1893 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Bundaberg still holds, with respect to acreage, the position of premier sugar district of the colony, with 19,303 acres under crop, an area, however, only 2,751 acres in excess of that of Mackay, these two districts combined contributing 61 per cent. of the total cane grown in the colony. Of these two, Mackay, in 1893, shows actually as well as relatively the greatest progress in the area added to the cane-fields, although the Maryborough district shows the greatest advance of any other district, taking into consideration the area planted in 1893, compared with that in 1892. The increase of 1,863 acres during 1893, an area equal to 49 per cent. on the figures of the previous year, shows the greatest advance in the cultivation of cane in any one district. The important additions to the area planted on the

renowned Isis lands principally contributed to this result, as although these lands are within the sphere of Bundaberg influence, yet they are within the boundaries of the Maryborough petty sessions district. Of the two most important districts—Bundaberg and Mackay—Mackay made by far the greatest progress. In the first place, the area crushed in 1893 exceeded that so treated in the previous year by 2,146 acres, or an increase of 18 per cent., and the second place the amount of sugar made there during 1893 was 64 per cent. more than was made the previous year. Compared with the above the increases in Bundaberg for 1893 were in area crushed 4 per cent., and sugar produced not quite 5 per cent. advance on the returns for 1892. Greater relative progress has been made in some of the other districts, but the increases being on much smaller figures they are really of less importance. In the Rockhampton district great progress has also been made, as there was more than 50 per cent. increase in the area planted, over 100 per cent. in the area crushed, and 354 per cent. in the quantity of sugar produced.

The average yields of sugar in the more important districts were as follow :—

	1892.	1893.		1892.	1893.
Bundaberg ...	1·87	1·71	Mackay ...	1·29	1·79
Maryborough ...	1·69	2·18	Cairns ...	1·27	1·25
Ingham ...	1·51	2·26	Ayr ...	1·08	1·84
Mourilyan ...	1·32	1·36	Logan ...	1·50	1·23

The improvement in the yield in the Maryborough and Ingham districts is very pronounced, and the return of $2\frac{1}{4}$ tons on a considerable area in the last-mentioned district is most satisfactory. The advance of half a ton to the acre on the large area crushed in Mackay explains the abundant output from that district. The output of sugar in the district of Ayr during 1893 was proportionately a little above other sugar-growing districts; but while noting this fact it must be remembered that the return for 1892 was an exceptionally poor one.

VINEYARDS were enlarged to the extent of nearly 100 acres in 1893, but the return was most unsatisfactory, the quantity of wine made being little more than half the production of 1892, whilst the quantity of grapes gathered for table use was less than in either of the three preceding years. The crop in the Moreton and Downs districts, which up to a certain stage promised to be a very good one, was greatly damaged by a succession of storms, frequently accompanied by hail, which in many cases caused complete destruction of the fruit. From the following table a comparison may be drawn respecting this crop for the past five years :—

U.

Year.	Area Planted with Vines.			Gallons of Wine made.	Lb. of Grapes used for the Table.
	Which was Productive.	Which was Unproductive.	Total.		
1889 ...	1,446	317	1,763	164,626	1,967,667
1880 ...	1,630	351	1,981	189,274	2,404,863
1891 ...	1,703	285	1,988	168,526	2,619,337
1892 ...	1,738	170	1,908	193,327	2,267,087
1893 ...	1,620	380	2,000	101,528	2,081,854

The area of unproductive vineyards is supposed to cover land recently planted, and which has not yet reached the period of bearing. On this hypothesis, certainly not more than 100 acres should have been returned as unproductive, which would have probably been the case were it not for the devastation resulting from the storms already referred to, which consequently may be considered to have rendered unproductive about 280 acres—an area equal to 17 per cent. of the total productive area.

Fuller information respecting the progress of viticulture in the districts where the vine is principally cultivated, will be found in the following table :—

V.

Petty Sessions District.	Total Area under Vines.			Quantity of Wine made.			Lb. of Grapes used for the Table.		
	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1893.	In 1892.	In 1893.	Increase* or Decrease† in 1893.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.
Roma ...	497	483	+14	21,040	16,620	+ 4,420	701,930	835,860	*133,930
Toowoomba ...	185	196	*11	55,722	29,135	+26,587	229,236	136,052	+ 93,184
South Brisbane ...	178	172	+ 6	18,636	8,674	+ 9,962	166,643	167,816	* 1,173
Brisbane ...	175	162	+13	7,175	4,970	+ 2,205	283,984	159,888	+124,096
Warwick ...	130	155	*25	13,166	1,945	+11,221	138,922	30,195	+108,727
Marburg ...	87	57	+ 6	9,034	1,877	+ 4,373	107,934	13,840	+ 90,058
Rosewood ...									
Gatton ...	54	71	*17	10,463	6,671	+ 3,792	59,511	69,140	* 9,629
Ipswich ...	85	66	+19	21,975	2,245	+19,730	93,110	12,527	+ 80,583
Nerang ...	47	61	*14	4,156	1,736	+ 2,420	8,081	11,152	* 3,071
Maryborough ...	39	53	*14	600	1,787	* 1,187	59,776	84,397	* 24,621
Logan ...	33	41	* 8	3,720	3,132	+ 588	19,850	29,025	* 9,175
Allora ...	34	38	* 4	4,349	3,611	+ 738	44,050	21,625	+ 22,425
Laidley ...	30	35	* 5	5,554	5,765	* 211	5,200	6,940	* 1,740
Highfields ...	35	31	+ 4	3,605	2,766	+ 839	10,724	28,748	* 18,024
Cleveland ...	26	28	* 2	1,790	814	+ 976	22,476	19,978	+ 2,498
Mitchell ...	21	27	* 6	...	...	...	26,632	51,520	* 24,888
Rockhampton ...	12	27	*15	...	...	...	8,000	48,162	* 40,162
Gympie ...	18	26	* 8	...	...	...	21,360	25,700	* 4,340
Harrisville ...	25	19	+ 6	5,064	1,394	+ 3,670	7,500	650	+ 6,850

The area devoted to the vine is more than twice as large in Roma as in the district of Toowoomba—the next in importance—but it is somewhat less than was similarly utilised in 1892. In the district first mentioned, there was an increase in the quantity of grapes gathered for table use, but a smaller quantity of wine was made. It is probable that some grapes included in the former category were converted into wine elsewhere, as I am informed that considerable quantities of grapes were purchased at Roma during the season of 1893 for wine making, some being brought as far as the Logan district for that purpose.

It would be interesting if a comparison could be made between individual districts as to their respective wine-producing capacity per acre, but, for the reason above mentioned, it is not possible to do so with any accuracy until local expert collectors are available to carefully obtain the requisite information. There were 664 gallons of brandy distilled during 1893 by various vigneron, in accordance with the provisions of 30 Vic. No. 23.

HAY.—The results obtained from the different varieties of hay crops were not so good as in 1892; and as the prices for that commodity ruled very low, dry fodder did not prove very remunerative to the farmer. Compared with 1892, there was a falling off of 3,000 acres in the area mown, and the yield was 0·22 of a ton less than shown by the returns of that year.

W.

Mown for Hay.	1892.		1893.	
	Acres.	Average Yield per Acre.	Acres.	Average Yield per Acre.
		Tons.		Tons.
Wheat	1,423	1·53	2,417	1·17
Oats	9,065	1·86	9,943	1·79
Barley	129	1·74	236	1·92
Rye	464	1·87	313	1·59
Lucerne	13,249	2·35	8,443	2·22
Panicum	1,240	1·99	1,025	1·67
Other Grasses	95	1·62	128	2·38
TOTAL	25,665	2·10	22,505	1·88

Oats and lucerne, the two principal hay crops, both show a reduced average production; but not so great as in the case of the two next in importance—viz., wheat and panicum. The latter being a drought-resisting crop, is not likely to be much grown during the continuance of moist seasons such as have been prevalent during the past few years. The returns obtained from barley and “other grasses” were more satisfactory, the latter particularly so.

GREEN FORAGE.—In 1893 there were 13,336 acres devoted to the production of green forage, the greater portion of which was fed to cattle as cut, a small portion only being stored in silos. The following were the areas under each description of crop sown for the above-mentioned purposes :—

Acres.					Acres.				
Wheat ... ..	...	...	...	340	Sorghum ... ..	...	...	...	905
Oats ... ..	...	...	...	2,104	Lucerne ... ..	...	...	...	5,721
Barley ... ..	...	...	...	650	Panicum ... ..	...	...	...	703
Maize ... ..	...	...	...	1,366	Other ... ..	...	...	...	953
Rye ... ..	...	...	...	146					
Sugar-cane ... ..	...	...	...	416					
Bere, Millet ... ..	...	...	...	32	Total ... ..	...	...	...	13,336

LUCERNE.—The leading crop is principally grown in the Toowoomba and Warwick districts; and, being a permanent crop, the same area is liable from year to year to be classed either as green forage or as hay or artificial pasture, according to the manner in which it was being utilised at the time the return for this Department was prepared.

BANANAS.—This plant is grown throughout the coastal portion of the colony, from Somerset in the North to Logan in the South. It is a most prolific producer in the more tropical situations in the North, where it was extensively grown of late years; the fruit being shipped to Melbourne and Sydney for sale. The cost and difficulties of freighting, however, the damage to the fruit in transit, combined with the competition offered by consignments from Fiji, reduced the price of the fruit below the margin of profit. The acreage under bananas decreased during 1893 by 21 per cent. and the production during the same period by 26 per cent. A comparison of the crops for the years 1892 and 1893 is afforded by the following table :—

X.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Area.		Production.		Increase* or Decrease† 1893.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.	Area.	Quantity.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Brisbane	51	51	152,801	65,260	...	+ 87,541
Bundaberg	47	27	37,050	48,996	+ 20	* 11,946
Caboolture	210	192	432,675	359,218	+ 18	+ 73,457
Cairns	893	443	8,130,766	6,893,830	+ 450	+ 1,236,986
Cleveland	413	392	929,760	744,075	+ 21	+ 185,685
Cook	41	42	48,831	41,035	* 1	+ 7,796
Douglas	65	34	491,400	59,000	+ 31	+ 432,400
Logan	221	274	371,300	444,700	* 53	* 73,400
Mackay	15	27	39,030	102,800	* 12	* 63,770
Maryborough	242	205	238,426	162,726	+ 37	+ 75,700
Mourilyan	523	470	2,312,200	1,470,100	+ 53	+ 842,100
Nerang	8	20	11,700	19,000	* 12	* 7,300
Somerset	80	72	18,446	40,295	+ 8	* 21,749

No doubt owing to the causes referred to above, in the Cairns district the area planted has been reduced more than one-half, although the yield obtained was so satisfactory that the quantity of fruit produced from the smaller area in 1893 was not much less than that gathered in the former year. Logan was the only district which showed any substantial addition to the area planted.

PINEAPPLES.—This fruit, although not so extensively planted as in any of the four previous years, nor so prolific as in 1891 or 1892, gave a very fair return to the grower in 1893. Indeed, the average yield in that year was considerably above the mean of the last decennium.

The export of this fruit to Melbourne at one period assumed considerable proportions, and the prices realised at that time proved highly remunerative. This satisfactory state of things has been much altered—first, by the altered condition of the Southern market; and, secondly, by the effects of a disease which has attacked many pineries in this colony. The fall in price is due partly to competition from Fiji and elsewhere, and partly to causes only too frequent where the market is distant from the producer—namely, the combination amongst agents and brokers to lower prices, or, in other words, “rig” the market; and the outbreak of disease, it is believed, has been brought about by the want of rotation of crops, because in many cases where the disease was most virulent it was proved that the land had been restricted to the growth of the pineapple alone for many years. As with the banana, the principal reductions, both in area and production, were in the districts of Cairns and Mourilyan. The following statement gives details respecting the cultivation of this fruit in all districts where the pineries exceeded ten acres in extent:—

Y.

District.	1892.		1893.		Increase* or Decrease†.	
	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	11	11,795	10	4,725	† 1	† 7,070
Brisbane	386	275,251	380	190,092	† 6	† 85,159
Caboolture	19	3,625	17	3,247	† 2	† 378
Cairns	215	145,684	67	36,500	†148	†109,184
Cleveland	88	32,823	56	33,197	† 32	* 374
Cook	37	21,834	35	4,169	† 2	† 17,665
Logan	26	10,060	34	13,830	* 8	* 3,770
Mackay	5	1,466	11	10,920	* 6	* 9,454
Maryborough	28	6,706	24	13,858	† 4	* 6,652
Mourilyan	54	9,804	10	1,330	† 44	† 8,474
Rockhampton	22	7,650	25	6,636	* 3	† 1,014
South Brisbane	34	5,440	29	5,331	† 5	† 109
Tiaro	10	1,145	13	1,950	* 3	* 805

ORANGES.—Although the results obtained from this crop were most satisfactory during 1893, there was a slight falling off in the area returned as being under cultivation compared with the previous year. This was, to a certain extent, compensated for by the fact that the quantity of fruit produced from the lesser area was considerably more than was gathered from the larger area in 1892. In fact, the average yield of oranges during 1893 was considerably in excess of that of any previous year; the return from both Cairns, in the North, and Toowoomba, in the South, being exceptionally good, although both these districts were amongst those showing a reduced acreage planted. The following statement provides a comparison of this crop for 1892 and 1893 in the most important districts:—

Z.

Petty Sessions District.	Area.		Production.		Increase* or Decrease† in 1893.	
	1892.	1893.	1892.	1893.	Area.	Production.
	Acres.	Acres.	Dozen.	Dozen.	Acres.	Dozen.
Bowen	92	87	85,282	57,314	† 5	† 27,968
Brisbane	57	63	54,811	74,522	* 6	* 19,711
Bundaberg	40	38	16,713	23,513	† 2	* 6,800
Caboolture	52	31	14,649	58,540	† 21	* 43,891
Cairns	204	130	423,897	969,412	† 74	*545,515
Cardwell	65	64	14,450	55,760	† 1	* 41,310
Charters Towers	11	14	14,351	18,930	* 3	* 4,579
Cleveland	51	64	22,913	41,820	* 13	* 18,907
Cook	73	70	16,992	33,560	† 3	* 16,568
Douglas	128	92	46,581	61,450	† 36	* 14,869
Gatton	123	133	125,808	61,616	* 10	† 64,192
Gympie	27	30	14,033	17,702	* 3	* 3,669
Herberton	27	33	10,369	22,300	* 6	* 11,931
Highfields	28	30	37,420	22,360	* 2	† 15,063
Hughenden	5	11	800	1,000	* 6	* 200
Logan	47	34	15,050	23,320	† 13	* 8,270
Mackay	23	16	11,031	8,300	† 7	† 2,731
Maroochie	20	29	21,000	14,726	* 9	† 6,274
Maryborough	155	155	141,726	298,738	...	*157,012
Nerang	83	97	30,550	74,700	* 14	* 44,150
Redcliffe	42	68	36,600	47,235	* 26	* 10,635
Rockhampton	62	89	17,946	58,176	* 27	* 40,230
Roma	23	16	21,400	20,910	† 7	† 490
South Brisbane	21	28	14,220	211,736	* 7	*197,516
Tiaro	34	24	11,150	9,052	† 10	† 2,098
Toowoomba	71	53	74,420	288,445	† 18	*214,025
Townsville	36	13	307,110	4,630	† 23	†302,480

Although the orange thrives well in most parts of Queensland, the present price of the fruit locally is such as to render it quite unprofitable to the grower, about 3d. per dozen being the maximum to be obtained for the best kinds. An instance came under my notice lately in which a grower who lives about fifty miles from Brisbane, who had good water carriage from his place to the city, was induced to send his crop of oranges to that market. He collected cases and packed the fruit carefully, sent a bullock dray load of them from his place to the water side, and despatched them to his agent for sale; but when he received the account sales he found himself, after paying for cases, freight, and other charges, 18s. in debt. Under such circumstances—and I believe this is not an isolated case—it is scarcely to be expected that orange farmers will extend their operations to any extent, unless a foreign market can be found for the fruit. Some time last year an effort was made to open a market in Canada for this fruit as well as other kinds. A shipment was sent by one of Messrs. Huddart, Parker, and Co.'s steamers to Vancouver. The oranges arrived in good condition, and were sold at from a dollar to a dollar and fifty cents per case. Each case contained an average of eight dozens of fruit. Several objections were raised on the other side to the size and shape of the cases, as they were too small, and some of the oranges were packed too green. The Canadian experts gave it as their opinion at that time that the shipping of oranges to Canada from the colony would not be likely to be a commercial success, because the fruit can be obtained so much nearer home—viz., from the West Indies and California, and that the Californian oranges ripen about the same time as those in Queensland, therefore the Canadian market would be well supplied with the fruit from that place at the time when the oranges from Queensland would arrive. It thus appears that that market is closed against our fruit; at least, as far as I am aware, no further shipments have been made to that country.

OTHER CROPS.—Information under this head is unfortunately at present very meagre and difficult to obtain; in fact, to fully obtain the necessary particulars it would be needful to institute exhaustive inquiries at the hands of trained collectors. Some crops, such as peaches, passion-fruit, melons, guavas, &c., are probably not returned to a tithe of their production, and others are passed over to a greater or less extent. Full particulars on this subject, as far as the returns received will permit, are to be found on reference to Table XI. in the Appendix. As far as can be judged from the returns received, there was a good deal less attention paid to the unscheduled crops in 1893 than in the previous year, only 1,320 acres of land being thus employed in the year under review, as against 1,694 acres in 1892. This falling off in cultivation of this kind is the result of the decline in one district alone—namely, Marburg, where in the year 1892 there were 463 acres devoted to the cultivation of “other crops,” compared with only 42 acres in 1893. To give an instance in the decline of one crop alone, Marburg only returned 179 tons of pumpkins last year, compared with 13,060 tons in 1892. In the districts of Warwick, Bundaberg, and Townsville, a considerably less area was thus utilised in 1893 as compared with the previous year; but the contrary is the fact in respect of the districts of Cook, Esk, and Rockhampton, in each of which a substantial increase in the area is shown. The results obtained have for the most part proved very satisfactory, apples, apricots, cocoanuts, limes, and mangoes showing a large increased production.

ARTIFICIALLY SOWN PASTURE.—In 1893 the quantity of land converted to this use—namely, 4,140 acres—was considerably less in area than appeared from the returns of the previous year.

The names of the districts where this mode of increasing the productiveness of pasture land is chiefly adopted, and the quantity of land so cultivated in each, is as under—

Districts.										Acres.
Warwick	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,157
Esk	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,603
Toowoomba	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,588
Killarney	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,390
Allora	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,183
Herberton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,758
Cairns	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,282

ENSILAGE.—There were 419 tons of ensilage stored last year, which is 84 tons more than in 1892. The districts in which this method of storing provender until more urgently required, and the amount stored in each, are mentioned below—

Districts.										Tons.
Harrisville	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	120
Ipswich	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Marburg	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
South Brisbane	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Cunnamulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Mitchell	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
Rockhampton	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	419

It is not to be expected that ensilage making will develop to any great extent while the seasons are showery, thus ensuring a plentiful supply of green fodder. At least, this will be the case so long as farmers continue the present improvident manner of conducting their business. From want of foresight in this direction farmers have in times past lost numbers of stock when the inevitable dry season overtook them; and it is to be feared that they will not profit by the experience gained, or be induced to make provision in this manner for their stock, in the event of unfavourable seasons setting in.

In conclusion, it gives me much pleasure to acknowledge the able assistance I have obtained from Mr. T. Weedon, the Compiler of General Statistics, in the production of this Report, and the construction of the many useful tables and statements which it contains.

Brisbane, 20th July, 1894.

WILLIAM T. BLAKENEY,
Registrar-General.

APPENDIX.

LIVE STOCK.

Table No. I.

RETURN of the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, SHEEP, and PIGS, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of QUEENSLAND, on the 31ST DECEMBER, 1893.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
Adavale	4,004	46,172	627,467	27
Allora	4,998	13,056	136,274	926
Aramac	1,738	20,470	218,709	19
Augathella	2,846	47,973	435,020	59
Ayr	3,610	45,863	...	353
Banana	5,401	112,540	26,868	102
Barcaldine	7,035	80,645	738,568	399
Beaudesert	5,016	40,668	363	2,084
Blackall	4,869	5,493	915,729	118
Boulia	6,996	145,593	48,238	39
Bowen	9,491	230,568	580	301
Brisbane	6,461	12,460	834	2,715
Bundaberg	6,185	63,419	855	1,302
Burke	3,643	177,519	800	172
Caboolture	1,568	9,494	166	1,375
Cairns	1,107	7,389	...	344
Camooeweal	2,726	38,255	...	62
Cape River	4,265	121,581	248	150
Cardwell	775	12,765	...	72
Charleville	7,650	114,196	527,707	860
Charters Towers	13,001	202,866	60	2,181
Clermont	13,304	238,748	750,414	611
Cleveland	492	1,747	130	409
Cloncurry	8,176	214,265	379,402	63
Condamine	2,098	19,254	48,230	111
Cook	2,248	39,586	...	341
Crow's Nest	1,450	16,565	30,000	429
Croydon	641	41,049	...	641
Cunnamulla	6,003	114,320	1,083,151	296
Dalby	6,278	46,948	469,300	1,091
Diamantina	2,802	84,126	26,802	10
Douglas	361	1,589	...	12
Dugandan	2,454	10,541	555	1,915
Eidsvold	2,070	59,196	13,632	281
Emerald	2,847	48,386	1,603	366
Esk	5,971	62,062	1,257	1,783
Etheridge	3,149	118,898	...	114
Eulo	1,654	65,194	129,316	8
Gatton	3,678	18,310	214	2,649
Gayndah	5,351	163,045	3,054	183
Gin Gin	2,180	46,588	360	786
Gladstone	6,207	135,314	1,718	456
Goodna	602	2,357	74	407
Goondiwindi	2,804	38,962	325,219	194
Gympie	4,746	46,984	2,727	1,287
Harrisville	2,739	13,646	21,684	1,357
Herberton	3,793	65,244	10	578
Highfields	3,106	8,619	708	1,553
Hughenden	11,304	237,813	1,109,982	401
Hungerford	1,270	1,371	288,412	11
Ingham	3,188	48,103	83	447
Inglewood	2,347	25,717	79,128	121
Ipswich	5,286	24,337	287	1,446
Isisford	2,140	7,302	610,291	29
Killarney	1,050	3,850	260	361
Laidley	3,307	12,926	530	2,464
Logan	2,508	10,793	100	1,339
Longreach	6,975	38,269	1,403,658	113
Mackay	17,214	235,453	4,694	1,358
Marburg	1,229	3,783	387	1,019
Maroochie	362	2,655	...	266
Maryborough	6,557	34,040	1,560	2,046
Mitchell	6,590	130,205	131,662	255
Mourilyan	433	687	...	141
Muttaburra	5,000	57,022	1,683,458	436
Nanango	6,018	79,862	18,529	346
Nerang	1,963	7,009	87	1,300
Norman	4,343	186,511	33,626	322
Palmer	1,029	27,821	...	38
Ravenswood	1,850	40,146	86	493
Redcliffe	1,516	9,269	5	1,244
Rockhampton	21,120	249,720	30,009	5,061
Roma	6,859	99,929	314,957	761
Rosewood	2,096	10,754	169	1,519
St. George	7,552	94,471	1,737,469	219
St. Lawrence	6,199	133,913	1,377	355
Somerset	175	2,120	25	136
South Brisbane	3,894	9,475	450	1,728
Springure	11,771	249,976	378,736	371
Stanthorpe	2,352	23,176	99,900	339
Surat	2,545	36,599	350,949	193
Tambo	3,915	30,383	573,506	42
Taroom	7,069	159,432	26,531	87
Tenningering	1,465	21,166	...	228
Thargomindah	9,668	374,055	677,430	52
Thornborough	2,401	69,405	...	197
Tiaro	3,509	44,208	182	928
Toowoomba	11,399	51,366	812,512	3,610
Townsville	6,513	122,688	439	1,790
Warwick	7,824	38,326	223,835	1,856
Windorah	7,449	213,456	274,555	58
Winton	6,911	130,824	858,109	162
Woodford	1,479	17,315	148	582
Yuleba	1,501	15,031	856	185
Totals for 1893	429,734	6,693,200	18,697,015	68,086
Totals for 1892	422,769	6,591,416	21,708,310	116,930
Increase in 1893	6,965	101,784	...	...
Decrease in 1893	...	...	3,011,295	48,844

Table No. II.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the SOUTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1892 and 1893, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
Adavale	54,058	46,172	...	7,886	957,967	627,467	...	330,500
Allora	13,860	13,056	...	804	161,063	136,274	...	24,789
Augathella	47,446	47,973	527	...	438,056	435,020	...	3,036
Beaudesert	41,704	40,668	...	1,036	603	363	...	240
Brisbane	15,788	12,460	...	3,328	369	834	465	...
Bundaberg	64,044	63,419	...	625	973	855	...	118
Caboolture	9,271	9,494	223	...	181	166	...	15
Charleville	105,856	114,196	8,340	...	533,031	527,707	...	5,324
Cleveland	2,583	1,747	...	836	173	130	...	43
Condamine	23,938	19,254	...	4,684	47,312	48,230	918	...
Crow's Nest	17,221	16,505	...	716	883	30,000	29,117	...
Cunnamulla	114,400	114,320	...	80	1,471,237	1,083,151	...	388,086
Dalby	46,721	46,948	227	...	731,116	469,300	...	261,816
Diamantina (one-half)	88,233	42,063	...	46,170	7,277	13,401	6,124	...
Dugandan	14,600	10,541	...	4,059	1,374	555	...	819
Eidsvold	28,335	59,196	30,861	...	15,652	13,632	...	2,020
Esk	69,361	62,062	...	7,299	1,757	1,257	...	500
Eulo	75,867	65,194	...	10,673	167,835	129,316	...	38,519
Gatton	24,341	18,310	...	6,031	235	214	...	21
Gayndah	154,813	163,045	8,232	...	6,729	3,054	...	3,675
Gin Gin	37,772	46,588	8,816	...	370	360	...	10
Goodna	2,168	2,357	189	...	13	74	61	...
Goondiwindi	38,729	38,962	233	...	408,948	325,219	...	83,729
Gympie	53,326	46,984	...	6,342	3,465	2,727	...	738
Harrisville	16,512	13,646	...	2,866	37,556	21,684	...	15,872
Highfields	10,393	8,619	...	1,774	1,501	708	...	793
Hungerford	1,294	1,371	77	...	345,532	288,412	...	57,120
Inglewood	21,884	25,717	3,833	...	69,049	79,128	10,079	...
Ipswich	23,059	24,337	1,278	...	633	287	...	346
Killarney	3,823	3,850	27	...	521	260	...	261
Laidley	18,913	12,926	...	5,987	799	530	...	260
Logan	10,716	10,793	77	...	64	100	36	...
Marburg ... ..	...	3,783	...	...	...	387	...	...
Marburg { Marburg	11,705	...	2,832	...	292	...	264	...
Marburg { Rosewood	...	10,754	...	...	...	169	...	...
Maroochie	2,749	2,655	...	94	...	...	...	...
Maryborough	30,339	34,040	3,701	...	635	1,560	925	...
Mitchell	115,340	130,205	14,865	...	198,210	131,662	...	66,548
Nanango	76,930	79,862	2,932	...	28,252	18,529	...	9,723
Nerang	8,821	7,009	...	1,812	82	87	5	...
Redcliffe	10,793	9,269	...	1,524	...	5	5	...
Roma	74,656	99,929	25,273	...	230,991	314,957	83,966	...
St. George	77,240	94,471	17,231	...	1,768,984	1,737,469	...	31,515
South Brisbane	11,806	9,475	...	2,331	1,540	450	...	1,090
Stanthorpe	23,525	23,176	...	349	92,426	99,900	7,474	...
Surat	36,123	36,599	476	...	422,035	350,949	...	71,086
Tambo	23,581	30,383	6,802	...	625,028	573,506	...	51,522
Taroom	162,155	159,432	...	2,723	27,876	26,531	...	1,345
Tenningering	42,570	21,166	...	21,404	1,081	...	...	1,081
Thargomindah	317,889	374,055	56,166	...	639,251	677,430	38,179	...
Tiaro	45,920	44,208	...	1,712	291	182	...	109
Toowoomba	55,707	51,366	...	4,341	772,895	812,512	39,617	...
Warwick	34,098	38,326	4,228	...	216,916	223,835	6,919	...
Windorah (one-half)	122,450	106,728	...	15,722	183,084	137,278	...	45,806
Woodford	19,997	17,315	...	2,682	123	148	25	...
Yeulba	11,259	15,031	3,772	...	1,364	856	...	508
	2,566,682	2,602,010	201,218	165,890	10,623,621	9,348,817	224,179	1,498,983

Net increase in Cattle in the Division, 35,328.

Net decrease in Sheep in the Division, 1,274,804.

Table No. III.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprised in the CENTRAL DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1892 and 1893, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
Aramac	24,157	20,470	...	3,687	406,185	218,709	...	187,476
Barcaldine	66,527	80,645	14,118	...	849,669	738,568	...	111,101
Banana	104,575	112,540	7,965	...	24,717	26,868	2,151	...
Blackall	7,608	5,493	...	2,115	1,150,891	915,729	...	235,162
Boulia	181,840	145,593	...	36,247	92,860	48,238	...	44,622
Clermont	194,097	238,748	44,651	...	670,519	750,414	79,895	...
Diamantina (one-half)	88,233	42,063	...	46,170	7,278	13,401	6,123	...
Emerald	60,777	48,386	...	12,391	664	1,603	939	...
Gladstone	152,471	135,314	...	17,157	1,970	1,718	...	252
Isisford	22,620	7,302	...	15,318	798,622	610,291	...	188,331
Longreach	44,789	38,269	...	6,520	1,539,943	1,403,658	...	136,285
Muttaburra	71,331	57,022	...	14,309	2,194,179	1,683,458	...	510,721
Nebo—Mackay (Nebo collection, say six elevenths)	95,445	128,428	32,983	...	6,271	2,560	...	3,711
Rockhampton	241,448	249,720	8,272	...	24,548	30,009	5,461	...
St. Lawrence	159,730	133,913	...	25,817	1,146	1,377	231	...
Springsure	172,138	249,976	77,838	...	337,740	378,736	40,996	...
Windorah (one-half)	122,450	106,728	...	15,722	183,084	137,277	...	45,807
Winton	122,164	130,824	8,660	...	1,151,637	858,109	...	293,528
	1,932,400	1,931,434	194,487	195,453	9,441,923	7,820,723	135,796	1,756,996

Net decrease in Cattle in the Division, 966.

Net decrease in Sheep in the Division, 1,621,200.

Table No. IV.

RETURN of the NUMBER of CATTLE and SHEEP in the various PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS comprising the NORTHERN DIVISION of the Colony for the Years 1892 and 1893, together with the INCREASE or DECREASE in the latter Year.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Cattle.				Sheep.			
	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.	1892.	1893.	Increase.	Decrease.
Ayr	45,583	45,863	280	...	158	...	...	158
Bowen	249,061	230,568	...	18,493	83	580	497	...
Burke	185,230	177,519	...	7,711	18,200	800	...	17,400
Cairns	8,918	7,389	...	1,529	23	...	...	23
Camooweal	29,518	38,255	8,737	...	32,000	...	...	32,000
Cape River	139,535	121,581	...	17,954	200	248	48	...
Cardwell	12,602	12,765	163	...	...	...	...	...
Charters Towers	217,730	202,866	...	14,864	1,676	60	...	1,616
Cloncurry	206,842	214,265	7,423	...	399,632	379,402	...	20,230
Cook	56,780	39,586	...	17,194	14	...	...	14
Croydon	23,331	41,049	17,718	...	...	...	...	...
Douglas	2,352	1,589	...	763	...	...	...	...
Etheridge	101,979	118,898	16,919	...	10	...	...	10
Herberton	62,454	65,244	2,790	...	142	10	...	132
Hughenden	250,943	237,813	...	13,130	1,151,402	1,109,982	...	41,420
Ingham	51,945	48,103	...	3,842	150	83	...	67
Mackay (less Nebo collection, say five elevenths)	86,348	107,025	20,677	...	183	2,134	1,951	...
Mourilyan	529	687	158	...	...	...	...	...
Norman	165,930	186,511	20,581	...	34,646	33,626	...	1,020
Palmer	27,281	27,821	540	...	...	...	...	...
Ravenswood	14,098	40,146	26,048	...	171	86	...	85
Somerset	1,943	2,120	177	...	42	25	...	17
Thornborough	79,646	69,405	...	10,241	...	...	...	...
Townsville	71,756	122,688	50,932	...	4,034	439	...	3,595
	2,092,334	2,159,756	173,143	105,721	1,642,766	1,527,475	2,496	117,787

Net increase in Cattle in the Division, 67,422.

Net decrease in Sheep in the Division, 115,291.

LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED.

Table No. V.

RETURN of LIVE STOCK SLAUGHTERED for PRESERVATION as Food, for FREEZING or for TALLOW during the YEARS 1884-1893, with the Quantity of MEAT, TALLOW, LARD, &c., produced.

Year						Number of Establishments.	Average number of Hands. employed.	NUMBER SLAUGHTERED.						MEAT PRESERVED OR FROZEN.					Extract of Meat produced.	Essence of Meat produced.	Quantity of Tallow produced.	Quantity of Lard produced.					
								Sheep.			Cattle.			Hogs.	Beef.		Mutton.						Bacon.				
								For Preserv- ing.	For Freezing.	For Boiling Down.	For Preserv- ing.	For Freezing.	For Boiling Down.		Preserved.	Frozen.	Preserved.	Frozen.									
1884	11	...		61,431				11,918		...	lb.	lb.	4,283,024	lb.	lb.	...	lb.	7,621	...	tons. 863	...	lb.
1885	9	...		63,802				36,033		...			8,871,867			...	37,752	...	2,009
1886	5	...		720				2,860		...			1,198,294			97
1887	4	...		23,448				15,578		...			5,174,000			...	46,115	1,088	1,267
1888	5	...		14,613				12,315		...			3,995,000			...	68,132	3,000	1,109
1889	4	...		85,989				11,266		350			7,403,046			...	118,686	1,513	1,170	3,029
1890	6	...		141,763				16,831		4,446			10,636,039			...	111,438	400	2,073
1891	8	286	29,111	122,022	...	21,919	8,784	...	17,790				16,194,329*			...	124,941	10,187	2,632	15,435
1892	16	989	170,683	162,662	317,421	28,683	24,567	32,000	†19,329		3,008,060	17,862,694	1,751,909	5,650,907	1,149,778	148,135	...	6,639	75,102	
1893	Barcaldine	2	...			25	1,129	150,668	66,025	1,070,082	43,543	39,828	41,166	§58,145	7,751,031	28,137,501	1,726,541	2,851,255	3,971,018	228,264	...	11,183	56,764				
	Brisbane	4	...																								
	Burke	1	...																								
	Hughenden	1	...																								
	Laidley	1	...																								
	Marburg	1	...																								
	Norman	3	...																								
	Rockhampton	2†	...																								
	Toowoomba	1	...																								
	Townsville	2	...																								
	South Brisbane	2	...																								
	Charleville	1	...																								
	Gladstone	1	...																								
Nanango	1	...																									
Caboolture	1	...																									
Warwick	1	...																									

* Of this 4,255,733 lb. were preserved, and 11,938,596 lb. frozen
† The proprietor of one establishment refuses to give a return.

‡ Number of pigs killed by farmers for bacon not collected
§ Including pigs killed by farmers for bacon.

LIVE STOCK.

Table No. VI.

AGES OF CATTLE.

Petty Sessions District.	Under 1 Year.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	Over 5 Years.	Age not Stated.	Total.
Adavale	2,037	3,871	3,479	3,358	3,590	1,893	27,944	46,172
Allora	1,424	1,233	1,012	1,569	702	1,161	5,955	13,056
Aramac	783	795	1,418	1,045	1,402	768	14,259	20,470
Augathella	2,475	2,256	1,786	1,501	922	2,745	36,288	47,973
Ayr	3,915	7,539	6,989	6,757	4,722	5,920	10,021	45,863
Banana	9,427	11,932	13,332	12,413	6,760	9,473	49,203	112,540
Barcaldine	5,509	5,432	4,741	5,086	2,972	4,528	52,377	80,645
Beaudesert	3,647	2,804	2,679	3,897	3,796	4,793	19,052	40,668
Blackall	516	651	578	343	316	497	2,592	5,493
Boulia	9,306	19,075	24,518	34,010	7,671	7,780	43,233	145,593
Bowen	6,418	5,289	7,467	5,299	3,432	8,864	193,799	230,568
Brisbane	1,358	1,014	956	1,095	1,325	4,123	2,589	12,460
Bundaberg	5,218	5,994	6,371	4,648	3,012	8,341	29,835	63,419
Burke	10,641	16,021	17,859	14,040	9,567	18,689	90,702	177,519
Caboolture	1,489	1,225	1,081	1,277	1,239	2,547	636	9,494
Cairns	612	476	334	307	241	625	4,794	7,389
Camooewal	4,231	3,837	3,848	2,147	1,430	5,194	17,568	38,255
Cape River	2,132	2,452	2,261	1,999	1,399	2,601	108,737	121,581
Cardwell	2,117	2,118	2,214	2,129	1,825	2,070	292	12,765
Charleville	8,489	11,686	9,793	10,991	7,143	10,510	55,584	114,196
Charters Towers	17,411	18,744	17,281	14,005	7,158	16,961	111,306	202,866
Clermont	17,122	16,420	18,831	10,016	6,887	13,254	156,218	238,748
Cleveland	269	213	174	206	189	410	286	1,747
Cloncurry	32,312	31,788	31,175	24,697	15,883	34,607	43,803	214,265
Condamine	2,254	1,596	1,676	1,697	644	1,802	9,585	19,254
Cook	3,300	3,014	3,028	2,817	2,878	4,113	20,436	39,586
Crow's Nest	2,623	2,764	1,858	1,328	1,012	1,554	5,366	16,505
Croydon	2,325	2,328	2,250	1,983	1,228	1,699	29,236	41,049
Cunnamulla	13,053	24,255	14,274	13,078	12,920	12,270	24,470	114,320
Dalby	2,236	1,802	1,511	1,261	1,067	1,515	37,556	46,948
Diamantina ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	84,126	84,126
Douglas	287	287	185	161	228	343	98	1,589
Dugandan	123	66	74	94	859	1,346	7,979	10,541
Eidsvold	11,023	10,558	9,352	7,906	5,713	11,405	3,239	59,196
Emerald	9,273	8,019	8,076	4,447	2,973	6,275	9,323	48,386
Esk	4,455	4,795	5,141	4,549	5,566	2,832	34,724	62,062
Etheridge	1,209	2,006	1,981	902	3	923	111,874	118,898
Eulo	5,918	7,564	5,154	6,609	4,221	9,595	26,133	65,194
Gatton	1,958	1,547	1,174	1,070	995	5,646	5,920	18,310
Gayndah	15,094	19,591	20,349	16,310	8,862	27,707	55,132	163,045
Gin Gin	5,474	9,784	5,148	4,521	5,092	5,706	10,863	46,588
Gladstone	18,556	21,538	19,893	17,347	11,347	25,140	21,493	135,314
Goodna	50	35	39	21	15	68	2,129	2,357
Goondiwindi	3,351	2,798	2,899	2,368	1,764	2,897	22,885	38,962
Gympie	4,483	4,119	4,005	4,311	2,776	5,646	21,644	46,984
Harrisville	2,044	1,581	1,294	990	1,269	1,946	4,522	13,646
Herberton	1,057	1,001	900	734	514	532	60,506	65,244
Highfields	484	437	287	318	261	469	6,363	8,619
Hughenden	17,902	25,171	27,788	18,199	13,539	23,709	111,505	237,813
Hungerford	210	133	490	113	109	243	73	1,371
Ingham	5,697	4,005	3,533	2,042	2,095	4,359	26,372	48,103
Inglewood	2,606	1,448	1,167	1,001	884	1,199	17,412	25,717
Ipswich	1,702	1,623	1,352	1,984	2,281	2,277	13,118	24,337
Isisford	28	80	204	179	29	102	6,680	7,302
Killarney	721	553	428	413	422	845	468	3,850
Laidley	729	635	534	1,847	1,791	2,511	4,879	12,926
Logan	447	364	319	297	349	556	8,461	10,793
Longreach	5,376	7,741	8,483	5,963	4,212	3,618	2,876	38,269
Mackay	27,792	32,561	24,573	24,216	17,644	21,837	86,830	235,453
Marburg	790	509	538	409	595	816	126	3,783
Maroochie	286	201	208	191	202	494	1,073	2,655
Maryborough	2,491	2,520	2,333	2,075	2,223	4,316	18,082	34,040
Mitchell	14,241	14,349	13,016	9,586	7,933	20,157	50,923	130,205
Mourilyan	84	27	68	338	89	...	...	687
Muttaburra	3,935	6,337	5,075	6,874	3,899	4,058	26,844	57,022
Nanango	11,521	14,714	13,466	10,090	7,463	11,622	10,986	79,862
Nerang	1,278	1,005	959	702	933	1,394	738	7,009
Norman	9,635	12,225	12,340	7,064	4,006	12,399	128,842	186,511
Palmer	2,336	1,869	2,156	2,551	1,527	4,307	13,075	27,821

Table No. VI.—*continued.*
AGES OF CATTLE—*continued.*

Petty Sessions District.	Under 1 Year.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	Over 5 Years.	Age not Stated.	Total.
Ravenswood	9,004	7,844	7,347	4,886	3,256	7,809	...	40,146
Redcliffe	1,061	829	810	893	870	2,612	2,194	9,269
Rockhampton	22,973	22,199	21,211	20,907	15,002	23,562	123,866	249,720
Roma	6,913	6,491	8,705	6,836	5,304	8,618	57,062	99,929
Rosewood	2,171	1,422	1,128	1,294	1,259	3,080	400	10,754
St. George	8,825	10,120	8,162	8,068	5,358	7,411	46,527	94,471
St. Lawrence	14,208	14,664	15,387	11,533	7,706	13,781	56,634	133,913
Somerset	205	256	203	449	488	508	11	2,120
South Brisbane	889	776	662	816	799	3,244	2,289	9,475
Springsure	19,207	18,753	18,053	16,824	7,063	16,497	153,579	249,976
Stanthorpe	3,754	4,367	3,358	1,941	1,492	3,097	5,167	23,176
Surat	2,217	1,301	764	363	172	951	30,831	36,599
Tambo	1,016	5,400	5,701	5,338	527	725	11,676	30,383
Taroom	12,235	16,319	15,989	10,854	7,504	14,130	82,401	159,432
Tenningering	3,605	3,366	2,880	1,754	1,761	3,493	4,307	21,166
Thargomindah	4,909	8,013	7,406	9,100	6,000	2,832	335,795	374,055
Thornborough	4,072	4,467	4,161	3,488	2,881	3,743	46,593	69,405
Tiaro	1,714	2,297	2,505	1,582	1,116	2,945	32,049	44,208
Toowoomba	4,790	5,034	7,488	5,688	4,227	8,390	15,749	51,366
Townsville	10,320	10,980	10,085	8,830	6,277	10,072	66,124	122,688
Warwick	3,875	3,314	3,142	3,356	3,446	3,059	18,134	38,326
Windorah	15,733	15,371	13,439	9,040	22,727	7,436	129,710	213,456
Winton	9,303	15,749	22,051	16,119	9,678	18,961	38,963	130,824
Woodford	820	740	705	959	726	1,277	12,088	17,315
Yeulba	1,808	2,843	2,170	1,382	1,915	888	4,025	15,031
Totals for 1893	534,922	615,335	593,267	506,091	355,569	589,804	3,498,212	6,693,200
Totals for 1892	926,182	1,076,626	964,298	758,459	600,853	1,004,094	1,260,904	6,591,416
Increase in 1893 ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,237,308	101,784
Decrease in 1893	391,260	461,291	371,031	252,368	245,284	414,290	...	...
Percentage each age to total number, 1893	7.99	9.19	8.86	7.56	5.31	8.81	52.27	100.00
Ditto, 1892	14.05	16.34	14.63	11.51	9.12	15.22	19.13	100.00

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of the COLONY of Queensland, during the Year 1893.

[illegible]

Table No. VII.—continued.

RETURN showing the TOTAL EXTENT of LAND under CULTIVATION, and the AREA under each DESCRIPTION of CROP, in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland, during the Year 1893—continued.

Petty Sessions Districts.	Total Extent of Land under permanent Pasture with Artificially Sown Grasses.	Total Extent of Land under Cultivation.	Land in Fallow.	Total Extent of Land under Crop.	WHEAT.			OATS.			BARLEY.			MAIZE.		RYE.			POTATOES.			SUGAR-CANE.		SOWN GRASSES.					VINES.				Gardens and Orchards.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	Acres.	Acres.			Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Lucerne.		Panicum.		Other.	Other Green Fodder.	For Wine-making.	For Table Use.		Unproductive.	Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.	Other Crops.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
																									Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.											Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Green Food for Cattle.	Grain.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	English.	Sweet.	Cotton.	For Sugar.	Green for Cattle.	Arrowroot.	Tobacco.	Bere, Millet.	Sorghum.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Hay.	Green Food for Cattle.	Hay.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
1. SOUTHERN. West of Main Range—continued.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																

Table No. VIII.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1893.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																								
	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		SUGAR-CANE.			Arrowroot.	Tobacco (cured leaf).	HAY.							VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.	Cotton.	Sugar- Cane Crushed.	Sugar.			Sown Grasses.						Wine made.	Grapes for Table use.				
														Lucerne.	Panicum.	Other Sown Grasses.	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.			Ry.			
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bshls.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Ton .	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
1. SOUTHERN. (a) East of Main Range.																									
Beaudesert	24	...	...	55,814	...	...	415	122	...	...	...	...	8	...	225	...	...	121	...	...	...	1,500	520	...	1,200
Brisbane	...	...	...	3,002	25	3	564	996	...	...	...	...	...	1	583	...	...	101	3	2	4,970	159,888	65,260	190,092	74,522
Bundaberg	...	...	...	34,389	...	...	101	1,277	...	13,699	23,423	...	...	...	230	...	...	121	12	...	...	25,928	48,996	2,020	23,613
Caboolture	...	24	...	12,767	...	...	249	383	...	97	98	6,245	1	...	179	4	...	16	8	...	416	18,524	359,218	3,247	58,540
Cleveland	...	...	...	1,618	...	...	56	154	...	16	16	...	...	...	42	...	...	...	...	...	814	19,978	744,075	33,197	41,820
Crow's Nest	368	...	...	10,756	...	4	171	2	...	...	...	...	1	33	5	...	...	4	...	...	120	2,500	...	...	...
Dugandan	165	...	20	123,617	257	...	266	2	3,450	...	...	...	...	7	209	11	15	370	...	...	780	6,450	10,300	...	3,300
Eidsvold	...	...	...	4,202	...	...	62	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	...	...	14	11	...	...	3,000	...	...	...
Esk	112	14	54	32,308	24	...	194	70	1,354	...	...	...	...	...	279	5	18	8	16	...	230	8,014	...	...	7,530
Gatton	1,387	334	464	126,544	1,171	...	3,413	15	2,375	...	...	...	...	202	548	11	113	1,960	289	...	6,671	69,140	1,200	Nil	61,616
Gayndah	6	...	...	543	...	...	25	51	...	...	...	...	...	...	28	...	...	3	4	...	...	3,400	...	24	1,100
Gin Gin	...	...	...	40,093	...	...	124	199	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	4	...	77	...	...	...	1,350	...	40	5,820
Goodna	...	...	...	6,465	...	...	27	2	3,360	...	...	...	11	...	126	...	...	6	2	...	500	6,500	...	40	Nil
Gympie	15	200	...	40,069	90	...	277	301	...	...	...	...	...	13	657	9	6	203	41	12	...	25,700	1,212	50	17,702
Harrisville	178	35	519	65,115	94	...	189	25	9,599	7	7	...	...	54	1,503	20	48	768	549	...	1,394	650	Nil	...	6,300
Ipswich	35	...	30	24,655	200	...	267	53	2,833	...	...	...	8	11	597	5	1	1,693	17	...	2,245	12,527	...	500	9,200
Laidley	1,767	28	435	123,135	860	...	1,593	52	1,773	...	...	3,850	...	394	846	96	166	4,048	64	...	5,765	6,910	...	...	640
Logan	...	42	25	23,575	35	143	692	380	...	1,082	1,329	110,904	...	2	418	5	10	63	45	...	3,132	29,025	444,700	13,830	23,320
Marburg	232	...	...	36,366	179	...	105	17	947	209	229	...	...	14	275	7	13	55	11	2	1,877	13,840	1,072	50	2,700
Maroochy	...	...	...	2,644	120	...	33	166	...	...	...	658	6	...	24	...	...	4	...	...	...	1,315	4,300	940	14,726
Maryborough	122	240	25	44,708	...	...	227	589	...	2,170	4,725	...	...	6	800	14	...	180	16	22	1,787	84,397	162,726	13,358	298,738
Nanango	1,463	20	Nil	8,625	30	...	64	28	...	...	...	...	...	14	56	2	...	45	30	13	600	7,744	...	...	6,920
Nerang	...	...	...	29,314	305	...	595	60	...	287	392	301,020	...	...	212	3	...	147	13	...	1,736	11,152	19,000	1,230	74,700
Redcliffe	...	...	...	18,474	...	...	868	503	...	...	...	...	...	5	467	1	14	172	5	...	150	3,480	13,572	670	47,235
Rosewood	...	...	...	61,591	...	...	40	2	3,357	...	...	...	...	...	368	7	27	127	74	...	2,784	4,036	...	...	...
South Brisbane	...	...	...	2,186	...	...	277	465	...	...	...	...	...	...	796	8	2	163	223	3	8,674	167,816	2,812	5,331	211,736
Tenningering	...	...	...	55	...	...	6	22	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiaro	60	60	106	22,001	794	...	261	42	...	20	15	...	...	13	619	12	21	147	...	...	120	15,410	9,552	1,950	9,052
Woodford	...	...	30	3,340	...	...	98	31	...	...	...	4,780	...	...	25	...	...	1	...	...	2,000	...	...	...	90
Total East	5,934	997	1,708	960,969	4,184	150	11,079	6,027	29,051	17,587	30,234	427,457	45	859	10,222	231	454	10,705	1,433	62	46,765	708,852	1,889,865	266,469	1,002,020
1. SOUTHERN. (b) West of Main Range.																									
Adavale	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Allora	135,735	4,827	2,270	90,687	1,486	1,110	72	2	...	...	...	...	...	322	441	25	...	1,843	32	...	3,611	21,625	...	...	1,200
Augathella	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Charleville	...	...	...	10	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,000	100	...	...
Condamine	6	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	12,480	...	...	...
Cunnamulla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dalby	3,933	...	184	13,173	150	...	101	11	...	...	...	...	...	2	18	21	4	431	...	...	440	10,790	...	...	...
Diamantina, part of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Eulo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goondiwindi	72	48	9	680	...	...	7	2	...	...	...	...	...	54	26	...	...	10	...	...	...	3,000	...	...	...
Highfields	14,526	419	66	133,467	326	10	1,844	...	...	...	...	...	5	166	239	23	18	376	3	...	2,766	19,610	...	...	1,780
Hungerford	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22,360
Inglewood	673	...	...	2,777	...	...	25	...	...	...	...	30	799	24	23	...	2	58	2	2	...	7,072	...	...	1,000
Killarney	21,237	...	...	48,958	...	3	103	...	...	...	...	400	2,056	...	30	2	...	169	...	...	...	5,100	...	12	...
Mitchell	2,035	Nil	...	826	...	...	Nil	7	...	...	...	...	...	124	12	...	...	...	...	Nil	...	51,520	...	...	...

Table No. VIII.—continued.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1893—continued.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																									
	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (cured leaf).	HAY.								VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.		Sugar-Cane Crushed.	Sugar.			Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Rye.	Sown Grasses.			Wine made.	Grapes for Table use.				
																		Lucerne	Pani- cum.	Other Sown Grasses.						
1. SOUTHERN. (b) West of Main Range—continued.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bhls.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.	
Roma ...	11,021	...	...	1,475	100	...	46	3	...	...	...	...	...	56	69	...	...	1	...	...	16,620	835,860	...	...	20,910
St. George ...	120	15	...	481	...	...	16	6	...	...	...	...	...	67	81	2	...	2	...	...	17,550	...	...	...	5,200
Stanthorpe ...	2,163	318	10	3,204	20	...	105	...	...	...	...	...	1,077	18	111	...	...	122	2	...	126	41,770	...	...	...
Surat ...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,485	...	...	...
Tambo ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,290	...	...	...	...
Taroom ...	...	...	...	1,996	...	...	16	18	...	...	...	...	...	6	63	2	...	17	37	...	30	760	...	...	515
Thargomindah ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Toowoomba ...	108,183	4,893	1,619	132,940	669	80	758	19	...	...	...	...	...	643	1,092	129	19	1,795	...	48	29,135	136,052	...	...	288,445
Warwick ...	104,978	350	1,780	122,826	200	...	621	2	...	...	...	...	464	400	1,926	...	Nil	1,500	13	74	1,945	30,195	...	...	1,220
Windorah, part of	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Yeulba ...	2,403	134	...	1,763	9	...	54	24	...	...	...	...	...	5	38	...	...	...	...	...	7,560	...	...	...	...
Total West ...	407,091	11,004	6,630	555,266	2,960	1,203	3,786	97	...	...	...	430	4,401	1,950	4,180	205	43	6,324	89	124	54,673	1,242,467	100	12	342,630
Total S. Div. ...	413,025	12,001	8,338	1,516,235	7,144	1,353	14,865	6,124	29,051	17,587	30,234	427,887	4,446	2,809	14,402	436	497	17,029	1,522	186	101,438	1,951,319	1,889,965	266,481	1,344,650	
2. CENTRAL. (a) East of Main Range.																										
Banana ...	...	...	...	80	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	6	...	...	...	1,200	...	...	350
Clermont...	25	...	...	138	...	...	7	9	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	...	...	...	...	...	6,160	...	...	...	2,520
Emerald ...	...	...	...	146	...	...	11	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	...	...	...	...	...	2,850	...	...	...	3,136
Gladstone ...	...	...	...	6,218	...	...	90	53	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	...	...	254	1	4	...	2,050	3,200	895	10,290
Mackay(Nebo col- lection)	...	...	...	25	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,460
Rockhampton ...	Nil	94	18	10,694	25	...	448	683	...	500	907	...	...	2,664	16	Nil	1,080	174	5	...	48,162	25,020	6,636	58,176	
St. Lawrence ...	...	...	...	1,944	...	...	10	34	...	...	...	...	8	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	130	400	244	1,410	
Springsure ...	...	...	...	494	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total East ...	25	94	18	19,739	25	...	567	796	...	500	907	...	8	2,759	16	...	1,341	175	9	...	60,552	28,620	7,775	77,342		
(b) West of Main Range.																										
Aramac ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Barcaldine ...	44	...	40	210	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	...	...	...	1,800	...	...	...	...
Blackall ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Boulia ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diamantina, part of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Isisford ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,500	...	...	...	...
Longreach ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,400	...	...	...	...
Muttaburra ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	8,960	...	...	...	800
Windorah, part of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,472	...	...	...	...
Winton ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total West ...	44	...	40	210	...	...	22	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	...	...	7	...	...	...	20,132	...	...	880
Total Central Division	69	94	58	19,949	25	...	589	808	...	500	907	...	8	2,775	16	...	1,348	175	...	...	80,684	28,620	7,775	78,222	

Table No. VIII.—continued.

RETURN showing the GROSS PRODUCE of PRINCIPAL CROPS raised in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS of the Colony of Queensland during the Year ended 31st December, 1893—continued.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	QUANTITY OF PRODUCE.																								
	GRAIN CROPS.						POTATOES.		Cotton.	SUGAR-CANE.		Arrowroot.	Tobacco (cured leaf).	HAY.							VINES.		Bananas.	Pineapples.	Oranges.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Rye.	Rice.	English.	Sweet.		Sugar- Cane Crushed.	Sugar.			Wheat.	Oats.	Bar- ley.	Rye.	Sown Grasses.			Wine made.	Grapes for Table use.			
																		Lucerne	Pani- cum.	Other Sown Grasses.					
Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bshls.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Acres.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.		
3. NORTHERN. (a) East of Coast Range.																									
Ayr ...	...	...	...	20,549	...	...	33	523	...	3,079	5,660	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,090		
Bowen ...	...	...	...	7,409	...	...	104	132	...	...	...	...	4	...	20	...	...	2	4	80	...	400	16,400	4,725	57,314
Cairns ...	...	...	...	88,767	1,700	25,010	84	1,319	...	1,400	1,750	20,050	81	...	39	...	...	...	14	9	...	...	6,893,830	36,500	969,412
Cardwell ...	...	...	...	1,580	...	...	...	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400	610	55,760
Cook ...	...	...	...	6,974	...	1,389	9	299	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41,035	4,169	33,560
Douglas ...	...	...	...	26,647	...	3,271	4	79	...	...	...	...	1	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	59,000	1,350	61,450
Herberton ...	...	...	...	90,951	...	290	319	702	...	...	...	200	12	11	300	...	...	355	...	20	...	11,460	17,221	1,075	22,300
Ingham ...	...	...	...	15,837	...	...	14	274	302	3,300	7,457	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	517	330	650
Mackay (less Nebo collection)	...	...	...	7,956	...	530	183	1,352	...	13,924	24,872	600	...	...	52	...	...	...	...	...	90	3,996	102,800	10,920	8,300
Mourilyan ...	...	...	...	5,212	610	200	...	134	...	3,880	5,266	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,470,100	1,330	420
Somerset ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40,295	259	300
Townsville ...	...	...	...	2,169	...	...	704	159	...	...	...	...	25	...	91	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,352	14,350	1,460	4,630
Total East ...	...	...	...	274,051	2,310	30,690	1,454	5,283	302	25,583	45,005	20,850	123	11	509	...	...	357	18	109	90	19,208	8,655,948	62,728	1,217,186
(b) West of Coast Range.																									
Burke ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Camooewal ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cape River ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	16	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,800	...	1,620	...
Charters Towers ...	...	...	...	12	...	...	50	85	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,936	1,165	1,749	18,930
Cloncurry ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	880	50	...	120
Croydon ...	...	...	...	1,072	...	...	5	103	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,610	255	310
Etheridge ...	...	...	...	4,924	...	...	42	67	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,200	2,068	220
Hughenden ...	Nil	...	...	...	...	...	76	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,296	200	...	500
Norman ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,000
Palmer ...	...	...	...	1,640	...	...	8	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ravenswood ...	...	...	...	40	...	...	16	48	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,531	...	1,720	140
Thornborough ...	...	...	...	6,185	...	...	25	64	...	...	...	...	...	...	135	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,115	1,953	...
Total West ...	Nil	...	...	13,873	...	...	257	425	...	...	...	...	...	...	145	...	...	...	...	...	...	30,643	16,773	6,789	23,153
Total N. Div.	Nil	...	...	287,924	2,310	30,690	1,711	5,708	302	25,583	45,005	20,850	123	11	654	...	...	357	18	109	90	49,851	8,672,721	69,517	1,240,339
Grand Total, 1893	413,094	12,095	8,396	1,824,108	9,479	32,043	17,165	12,640	29,353	43,670	76,146	448,737	4,577	2,820	17,831	452	497	18,734	1,715	304	101,528	2,081,854	10,591,306	343,773	2,663,211
" " 1892	462,583	12,965	6,969	2,333,553	8,001	33,380	20,498	16,168	212,370	40,572	61,368	576,738	3,808	2,231	16,844	225	867	31,147	2,465	154	193,337	2,267,087	14,277,663	663,803	1,689,466
Increase in 1893	...	...	1,427	...	1,478	...	...	...	...	3,098	14,778	...	769	589	987	227	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	973,745
Decrease in 1893	49,489	870	...	509,445	...	1,337	3,333	3,528	183,017	...	...	128,001	...	...	...	...	370	12,413	650	...	91,809	185,233	3,686,357	320,030	...

WHEAT RETURNS—1893.

Table No. IX.

RETURN for the Year 1893, showing the EXTENT of LAND SOWN with WHEAT GRAIN in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS from which Returns have been received, the AREA MOWN for HAY, REAPED for GRAIN, CUT for GREEN FEED for CATTLE, and UNPRODUCTIVE, respectively ; also the AREA affected with RUST, free from RUST, and the PRODUCE.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Total Extent of Land Sown with Wheat Grain.	Total Area Mown for Hay.	Total Area Reaped for Grain.	Total Area cut for Green Feed for Cattle.	Total Area Unproduc- tive.	RESULTS.											
						AFFECTED WITH RUST.					FREE FROM RUST.						
						Total Area affected with Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.			Total Area free from Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.		
							Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.		Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.		Tons.		Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.		Tons.		Bushels.	Bushels.
SOUTH. East of Main Range.																	
Beaudesert	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	2	24	12·00
Brisbane	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	...	...	...
Crow's Nest	53	17	36	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	17	33	36	368	10·22
Dugandan	15	6	9	...	...	3	3	2	...	...	...	12	3	5	9	165	18·33
Esk	6	...	5	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	5	112	22·40
Gatton	422	211	125	68	18	64	58	85	6	38	6·33	272	153	207	119	1,349	11·34
Gayndah	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	6·00
Gympie	5	4	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	13	1	15	15·00
Harrisville... ..	61	44	14	3	...	5	5	6	...	...	...	53	39	48	14	178	12·71
Ipswich	12	8	4	...	...	4	4	4	...	...	...	8	4	7	4	35	8·75
Laidley	387	242	118	4	23	65	61	89	4	44	11·00	295	181	305	114	1,723	15·11
Logan	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	2	...	...	...
Marburg	27	9	12	4	2	1	1	2	...	...	...	20	8	12	12	232	19·33
Maryborough	37	7	10	...	20	3	2	1	1	2	2·00	14	5	5	8	120	15·00
Nanango	113	7	82	1	23	...	...	...	...	...	...	89	7	14	82	1,463	17·84
Nerang	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Redcliffe	2	2	...	...	...	2	2	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tiaro	40	7	7	1	25	2	2	4	...	...	...	12	5	9	7	60	8·57
Woodford	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	1,193	568	425	83	117	149	138	198	11	84	7·64	844	430	661	414	5,850	14·13
SOUTH. West of Main Range.																	
Allora	10,399	419	9,828	80	72	1,558	205	139	1,353	15,675	11·59	8,689	214	183	8,475	120,060	14·17
Charleville... ..	27	17	...	...	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	17	8	...	...	...
Condamine	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	6·00
Cunnamulla	11	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	11	16	...	...	...
Dalby	263	1	252	2	8	18	...	...	18	170	9·44	235	1	2	234	3,763	16·08
Goondiwindi	41	33	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41	33	54	8	72	9·00
Highfields	1,234	146	1,084	3	1	5	...	...	5	36	7·20	1,225	146	166	1,079	14,490	13·43
Hungerford	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Inglewood	74	22	52	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	74	22	24	52	673	12·94
Killarney	1,285	...	1,285	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,285	...	...	1,285	21,237	16·53
Mitchell	232	69	162	1	...	109	69	124	40	620	15·50	122	...	...	122	1,415	11·59

Table No. IX.—continued.

RETURN for the Year 1893, showing the EXTENT of LAND SOWN with WHEAT GRAIN in the several PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS from which Returns have been received, the AREA MOWN for HAY, REAPED for GRAIN, CUT for GREEN FEED for CATTLE, and UNPRODUCTIVE, respectively; also the AREA affected with RUST, free from RUST, and the PRODUCE.

PETTY SESSIONS DISTRICTS.	Total Extent of Land Sown with Wheat Grain.	Total Area Mown for Hay.	Total Area Reaped for Grain.	Total Area cut for Green Food for Cattle.	Total Area Unproduc- tive.	RESULTS.											
						AFFECTED WITH RUST.						FREE FROM RUST.					
						Total Area affected with Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.			Total Area free from Rust.	HAY.		GRAIN.		
							Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.		Acres.	Produce.	Acres.	Produce.	Average per Acre.
						Acres.	Tons.		Bushels.	Bushels.	Acres.		Tons.		Bushels.		
SOUTH. <i>West of Main Range—continued.</i>																	
Roma	1,099	78	1,005	3	13	206	7	7	199	1,906	9·58	877	71	49	806	9,115	11·31
Stanthorpe	176	18	156	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	174	18	18	156	2,163	13·87
St. George	44	39	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	44	39	67	5	120	24·00
Surat	21	20	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	20	39	1	6	6·00
Taroom	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	6	...	...	...
Toowoomba	8,452	648	7,714	19	71	2,140	177	188	1,963	21,980	11·20	6,222	472	455	5,750	86,203	14·99
Warwick	6,901	313	6,199	139	250	223	82	100	141	1,563	11·09	6,289	230	300	6,059	103,415	17·07
Yeulba	258	9	230	6	13	51	2	1	49	393	8·02	188	7	4	181	2,010	11·10
Total	30,522	1,844	27,982	255	441	4,310	542	559	3,768	42,343	11·24	25,516	1,302	1,391	24,214	364,748	15·06
Total Southern	31,715	2,412	28,407	338	558	4,459	680	757	3,779	42,427	11·23	26,360	1,732	2,052	24,628	370,598	15·05
CENTRAL.																	
Barcaldine... ..	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	44	14·67
Clermont	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	25	25·00
Rockhampton	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Central	8	...	4	...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...	4	69	17·25
NORTHERN.																	
Bowen	2	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Herberton	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	11	...	...	...
Hughenden	20	...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total Northern	27	5	...	2	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	11	...	...	...
Total, 1893	31,750	2,417	28,411	340	582	4,459	680	757	3,779	42,427	11·23	26,369	1,737	2,063	24,632	370,667	15·05
Total, 1892	33,332	1,423	30,907	167	835	1,844	226	359	1,618	28,642	17·42	30,486	1,197	1,872	29,289	433,941	14·82
Increase, 1893 ... ..	...	994	...	173	...	2,615	454	398	2,161	13,785	...	...	540	191	...	...	0·23
Decrease, 1893	1,582	...	2,496	...	253	...	...	...	...	...	6·19	4,117	...	...	4,657	63,274	...

AVERAGE PRODUCE PER ACRE OF PRINCIPAL CROPS—RETURN FOR TEN YEARS.

Table No. X.

Year.	Wheat Grain.	Oats Grain.	Barley Grain.	Maize.	Rye Grain.	Rice.	English Potatoes.	Sweet Potatoes.	Cotton.	Sugar (on Acres Crushed).	Arrowroot.	Tobacco (Dried Leaf).	Wheat (Hay).	Oats (Hay).	Barley (Hay).	Rye (Hay).	SOWN GRASSES.			Wine.	Grapes for Table Use.	Bananas.	Pine- Apples.	Oranges.
																	Lucerne (Hay).	Panicum (Hay).	Other Sown Grasses (Hay).					
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.	Lb.	Tons.	Lb.	Cwt.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Gallons.	Lb.	Dozens.	Dozens.	Dozens.
1884...	16.17	15.17	24.73	21.50	...	...	1.81	5.47	245.92	1.11	1,632.86	11.18	1.18	1.75	2.26	...	...	*	1.22	193.82	2,107.70	874.62	325.36	309.16
1885...	5.11	4.84	24.20	21.94	...	...	1.70	5.79	299.36	1.45	1,672.46	11.37	0.60	1.19	0.71	...	*	1.56	1.10	227.86	1,929.82	1,605.59	334.97	1,040.36
1886...	3.13	10.42	24.07	22.62	...	66.44	2.41	6.68	140.00	1.69	1,819.22	7.07	1.77	2.23	3.15	...	1.77	2.45	1.83	249.00	2,560.22	2,124.50	402.56	601.57
1887...	22.10	24.26	27.03	22.31	...	50.36	2.37	7.11	...	1.65	1,242.44	3.31	1.83	1.81	3.80	...	2.19	1.71	1.26	194.23	2,712.75	3,060.87	368.07	778.61
1888...	0.89	5.65	22.94	25.38	...	37.41	1.90	5.39	...	1.07	1,710.54	11.53	1.36	1.03	0.55	...	1.73	1.69	1.80	240.40	2,206.53	2,847.23	323.14	695.15
1889...	15.88	19.41	21.24	17.84	...	8.81	2.38	5.64	7.00	1.36	2,780.90	9.52	1.96	2.29	3.11	...	1.71	1.88	1.76	251.34	2,487.57	1,521.49	362.71	323.74
1890...	20.02	21.82	21.70	23.88	15.81	22.55	2.09	5.76	332.19	1.69	2,580.23	4.43	1.64	1.60	1.60	...	1.61	1.73	1.44	274.31	2,547.73	5,656.06	365.26	740.49
1891...	20.32	23.31	28.83	30.30	23.11	46.96	2.73	5.58	541.62	1.39	2,878.70	9.75	1.65	1.85	3.00	...	1.96	2.07	2.00	247.47	2,562.95	2,988.14	477.52	766.55
1892...	14.57	21.94	18.10	25.32	22.23	29.99	2.41	5.45	296.19	1.51	2,597.92	11.97	1.53	1.86	1.74	1.87	2.35	1.99	1.62	225.32	2,576.24	4,667.43	641.36	979.97
1893...	14.25	19.96	16.96	19.50	19.11	40.61	2.07	4.22	153.68	1.74	2,337.17	9.64	1.17	1.79	1.92	1.59	2.22	1.67	2.38	157.41	2,135.23	4,371.15	428.11	1,633.87

* Previously included in Sown Grasses.

Table No. XI.

SHOWING the PRODUCE obtained during the Year 1893, from "OTHER CROPS," details of which are not included in the GENERAL TABLE.

[illegible]

* 1½ acres coffee—no yield given.

† Mangoes—no yield given.

‡ Cocoanuts—no yield given.

HORSES, CATTLE, AND SHEEP.

Table No. XII.

RETURN showing the NUMBER of HORSES, CATTLE, and SHEEP contained in SCHEDULES received under "*The Stock Returns Act of 1893*," subsequent to the end of JUNE, and not included in the GENERAL STOCK TABLES.

Division.									Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.
Southern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,258	15,824	1,754
Central	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,053	9,911	206
Northern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	983	1,852	...
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,294	27,587	1,960

Price 1s.]

By Authority: EDMUND GREGORY, Government Printer, William street, Brisbane.